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Wall Street Reaches for the Seasickness Pills

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — This is white-knuckle week on Wall Street, as traders wait to see whether last Friday's collapse in stock prices turns into a panic when trading opens Monday morning.

No reason for that, say cooler heads, who—despite new government figures showing surprisingly strong jobs growth in February—still expect a slow-growing economy with moderating interest rates.

Whatever happens to stocks and bonds this week, the biggest change resulting from last Friday's 171-point plunge in the Dow Jones industrial average was not the fundamental course of the U.S. economy, but the way Wall Street was talking about it.

"In an instant, the focus of debate over prospects

for U.S. growth went from arguing over how weak the economy was to how strong," said Lisa S. Kaess of financial adviser Geoffrey Bell & Co.

Even so, hardly anyone on Wall Street forecasts annual growth at much more than 2 percent. This

European markets follow U.S. bonds lower—whether they want to or not. Page 10

compares with the forecasts of just below 2 percent that were common before the release Friday of a Labor Department report of 705,000 new jobs in February, a figure double what most economists had expected.

The classic argument over whether the economic glass is half full or half empty will continue for a fortnight and more while the government churns out

statistics on inflation and industrial production this week and retail sales next week.

Even if the February jobs report was overstated—as many on Wall Street believe it is—John Lipsky of Salomon Brothers said it signaled "a shift in the momentum of the economy which came earlier than anticipated, pushed interest rates higher and raised the question of how close we are to a resurgence of inflation pressures."

In particular, he said, markets started worrying about whether the massive inflows of mutual-fund money that have powered the Dow to record highs would suddenly stop. "That is what gives them pause now," he said.

During the past two months more than \$50 billion

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Focus on Long Term, Veterans Counsel After Drop

By Reed Abelson
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The steady upward march by the markets had lulled most people to sleep. But the sharp downturn in bonds and stocks Friday, caused by the release of surprisingly strong employment figures, jolted awake nearly every holder of stocks or bonds.

"Whenever an event happens that is so different than the consensus, it has a dramatic impact on the market," said Byron Wien, chief domestic strategist for Morgan Stanley. "This employment report was a

shocker."

While getting back to sleep may prove difficult, seasoned market analysts counsel investors to keep their focus on the long term. Many consider the jobs report more of a fluke than an indicator of an over-heating economy. They refuse to predict an end to the

NEWS ANALYSIS

bull market in stocks, although they caution investors to be prepared for inevitable ups and downs.

"We don't view the world as being dramatically different today from yesterday," said E. Wayne

Nordberg, a partner in the investment firm of Lord, Abbett, which continues to forecast modest economic growth of 2.0 percent to 2.5 percent this year.

"Does this require a blanket reappraisal of the long-term investment decision by the public? We would say definitely not."

The prevailing wisdom on Wall Street had been that the economy was slowing and that interest rates were bound to head down. But the report of a surge in the number of new jobs suggested the exact opposite.

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U.S. Moves Carrier Toward Taiwan as Warning to China

High Officials Caution Beijing On Live-Ammunition Exercises

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — The United States is moving an aircraft carrier group closer to Taiwan, Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher said Sunday, adding that the Clinton administration was extremely concerned by what he called "reckless" and "risky" Chinese actions such as exercises with live ammunition off the Taiwan coast.

Mr. Christopher said on NBC-TV that there would be "really grave consequences" if China continued to threaten Taiwan. It was one of the highest-level warnings yet from Washington to Beijing.

Separately, the president's national security adviser, W. Anthony Lake, issued a blunt warning about the live-ammunition exercises that China says it will conduct beginning Tuesday in the Taiwan Strait, which separates the mainland and Taiwan.

"If they get out of hand," Mr. Lake said on ABC-TV, "if there are accidents," the Chinese "will be held accountable." He did not elaborate.

But Mr. Christopher noted that U.S. carrier task forces had passed through the Taiwan Strait before, and he implied that they could return there soon.

A Pentagon spokeswoman said Sunday that the carrier Independence and the destroyer O'Brien, which had been on routine exercises in international waters between Okinawa and Taiwan, were now "operating closer to Taiwan." She added that the Aegis-missile cruiser Bunker Hill was now in international waters south of Taiwan.

U.S. officials declined to say how close the carrier group would come to Taiwan, but Mr. Lake later said, "I would not assume it's into the strait itself."

China said Saturday that naval and air force exercises would begin Tuesday about 80 miles off Taiwan's southwestern coast, and about 35 miles from the Pescadores Islands, held by Taiwan.

The maneuvers are scheduled to last until March 20, three days before Taiwan's first democratic presidential election. Beijing has expressed keen concern about the prospect that a democratically elected president in Taipei might be emboldened to declare independence from the mainland. It has also harshly criticized efforts by Taiwan, which it considers a renegade province, to reduce its diplomatic isolation.

China has gradually raised the volume

of its protests. It began last year with verbal threats, more recently with army exercises in a southeast coastal area, then on Friday fired three M-9 ballistic missiles into waters near major ports on the north and south of the island.

Unnamed Chinese military sources warned Sunday that the planned exercises "are just the beginning," and that China could attack one of several islands held by the Nationalist government. Reuters reported from Beijing.

But President Lee Teng-bui called for calm, Reuters added. "The 21 million people in Taiwan should find confid-

Asian nations are taking a low-key approach to Beijing's tests. Page 6.

ence despite a storm, and with dignity choose the first democratically elected president in the 5,000 years of Chinese history," he said.

American and other officials have said they believe the Chinese will not go beyond saber-rattling. But Mr. Christopher and Mr. Lake both said they had made every effort to be certain that China would not underestimate U.S. resolve and make a dangerous miscalculation.

Mr. Christopher said the message was pressed in meetings last week with an unnamed high Chinese official in Washington. "We spent hours talking with him and we made it clear to them," he said. "We've told them in Beijing, we've told them here in Washington."

He added: "We must, I think, make it clear to them that there will be really grave consequences if they try to resolve that problem through force."

On Dec. 19, with tensions rising, the aircraft carrier Nimitz and four escort vessels changed course to pass through the strait. U.S. officials cited bad weather, but the message was considered clear.

The chances of a full-scale invasion of Taiwan are considered small. But a Chinese source told Reuters that military leaders in Beijing are eager to display their muscle in the event of a Taiwanese declaration of independence. "The chances of a skirmish have become bigger," he said.

Mr. Christopher said that the administration remains committed to a policy of engagement with Beijing.

"We just can't make a list of things where we disagree and walk away," he said. "We have to stay engaged. Engagement doesn't mean that we make concessions or conciliate with them. But we've got to stay engaged."

Palestinians Arrest 3, and Hamas Vows New Attacks

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian security forces announced Sunday that they had arrested three of the Islamic militant fighters suspected of having taken part in the suicide-bombing campaign against Israel, but the militant Hamas group declared that it would resume the attacks.

After bus bombings in Jerusalem on two successive Sundays, Israeli were

Political problems for Poles • EU will press Iran over terror. Page 9.

jittery and many kept away from buses, but there were no incidents.

Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, announced late Saturday that it intended to "resume its suicide operations."

The statement, in a leaflet distributed to news organizations, said Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority had gone "too far in its attack on Hamas," and called for a halt to arrests and searches. The Palestinian security forces have arrested about 600 Islamic activists.

Hamas also assailed the planned international summit meeting on terrorism to be held at the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt, saying it was a "desperate attempt to save the Zionists from humiliation and lift their cowardly spirits that were destroyed by our martyrs' courage."

The head of the Palestinian security forces in the Gaza Strip, Major General Abdel Razeq Majadeh, said that three suspects, Abdel Fatah Sani, Salem Abu Marouf and Karim Khalifa, were held overnight. They are reportedly among the 11 Hamas fighters whom Israel has pressed the Palestinians to arrest. The leader of the Hamas military wing, Mohammed Diif, apparently has not been apprehended.

An Israeli police spokesman announced that a Tel Aviv court had put under house arrest an Israeli Arab who is deputy mayor of the northern town of Umm el-Fahm.

According to court documents, the official, Saleem Aghbariya, is accused of using an Islamic charity to channel funds from abroad to Hamas, which consists of both an armed wing of fighters and a social network that includes clinics, kindergartens and pharmacies.

Mr. Aghbariya is also accused of using money to support the families of Hamas fighters. Israel has made similar charges against Islamic charities in the past. Mr.

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A woman flanked by soldiers Sunday at a Jerusalem bus stop where a suicide bomber killed 19 people last week.

AGENDA

One Dies in Denmark Shoot-Out

COPENHAGEN (Reuters) — One man was killed and four were wounded Sunday after being attacked by gunmen in two apparent motorcycle gang shoot-outs that took place simultaneously at Copenhagen and Oslo international airports, the police said.

The police said the shootings appeared to be part of an internal feud between rival Hell's Angels and Bandidos gangs.

The police said one of the wounded men in Copenhagen ran into the airport arrival hall after the shooting, blood streaming from his body, and collapsed in front of hundreds of tourists returning from vacation.

Two of the gunmen escaped by car and the police said they were searching for them throughout Copenhagen.

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In Sarajevo's Suburbs, Thugs Rule

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

GRBAVICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A lock of Sulejka Mehovic's hair was stuck to the ceiling of her apartment. Blood was its glue. Blood in the pattern of roses also splattered the wall around a chair where the 65-year-old woman spent her last hours, screaming for help.

Somebody shot her in the head at close range last Tuesday night after spending several hours beating her to a point somewhere between life and death, and ransacking the place.

The Muslim teacher, whose bookshelf revealed interests in biology and nature and had photographs of Prague, lived through almost four years of Serb occupation of her neighborhood. Now, just two weeks days before this Serb-

held suburb was scheduled to pass to the control of the Muslim-Croat federation as part of the Dayton peace agreement, she fell victim to the increasing anarchy that descends upon Grbavica each day after sundown.

Horrible murders can happen in any urban area. But Mrs. Mehovic's killing is being seen in a larger context: as a symbol of the failure, thus far, of a UN police force and the NATO-led peace mission in Bosnia to provide security as Serb-held suburbs of Sarajevo revert to Muslim control.

First, Serbs fled the suburban towns en masse. As they left, they stripped houses and factories of everything they could carry, in some cases setting buildings on fire. Now, the few people who remain in these near-ghost towns are being terrorized by thugs.

United Nations human-rights officers

report that, nightly, gangs of Serbs beat, rob and intimidate many of the estimated 1,500 Serbs, Muslims and Croats who remain in the Grbavica neighborhood.

Mrs. Mehovic feared a Serb attack and went first to the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees requesting assistance, a senior Western aid official said. They instructed her to go to the UN police. The UN police told her to take her complaints to the Serb police.

A neighbor said gunmen broke down her door at 11 P.M. Tuesday. For several hours, screams cut through the wintry night. One of the neighbors said she wet herself with fear as she listened to the brutality unfold upstairs.

Although UN officials say they do

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Showbiz Says 'Good Night' to George Burns, 100

New York Times Service

George Burns, 100, the cigar-puffing comedian who was the best comic "straight man" of his time in a partnership with his wife, the masterfully scatterbrained Gracie Allen, and who then began a new solo career in show business when he was nearly 80, died Saturday.

Their beloved radio show always ended with Mr. Burns' rasping, "Say good night, Gracie." To which Miss Allen obligingly replied, "Good night, Gracie."

Mr. Burns died at his home in Beverly Hills, California. His career in show business lasted 93 years.

When he was well into his 90s, Mr. Burns announced with his customary brio that he had arranged to celebrate his 100th birthday, on Jan. 20, 1996, with an engagement at the London Palladium. That being the case, he noted, he could not possibly die — "I'm booked," he explained.

The diminutive, gravel-voiced Mr. Burns, occasionally breaking into a fragment of some long-forgotten vaudeville ditty, all the while savoring a huge cigar, was beloved by generations of Americans.

He not only survived but triumphed in vaudeville, radio, television, nightclubs, records, books and

movies. Even as he aged, he seemed ageless.

He never recovered fully from a fall in July 1994 and became increasingly frail. He was forced to cancel his Palladium appearance and a sold-out engagement scheduled for last year at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

Mr. Burns already had his opening line ready: "It's nice to be here. When you're 100 years old, it's nice to be anywhere."

The Burns and Allen team rose to the heights of the entertainment world in the 1920s and remained there, whether in vaudeville, movies, radio or television, until Miss Allen retired in 1959.

After her death in 1964 at 58, Mr. Burns continued to perform on television in concerts and nightclubs with performers like Carol Channing, Ann-Margret and Dorothy Provine.

In 1975, when he was 79 and after undergoing major heart surgery, Mr. Burns made a triumphant movie comeback in Neil Simon's "Sunshine Boys," in the role of a retired vaudeville performer, and began his remarkable second career.

He had been absent from the screen in a leading role for 35 years, but he won an Academy Award as best supporting actor, a coup that led to new film roles. He also appeared in annual television specials and was a guest on many other programs.

Mr. Burns and Miss Allen were products of that golden age in vaudeville that produced many comedians who successfully made the transition to motion pictures, radio and television. Among them were Milton Berle, George Jessel, Al Jolson, Fanny Brice, Phil Silvers, Bert Lahr and Mr. Burns' closest friend for a half-century, Jack Benny.

Although on stage Mr. Burns made a mild pass at appearing to be vain — he pretended to be a great lover as well as a fine singer, and fooled no one on either count — he was unapologetically content to play the Burns and Allen team's straight man, feeding his partner the lines that set up the punch lines.

"Me, the long-suffering husband," he said, "seems to utter only lines that give Gracie, the nutty flubbertigibbet, a chance to say something crazy. I don't mind. I wind up having the last laugh, anyway, when I bank our pay."

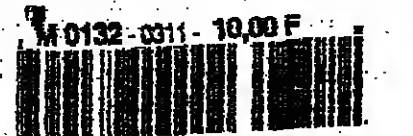
Indeed, as one of the most successful comedy teams in modern times, Mr. Burns and Miss Allen were millionaires several times over. In the 1950s, when theirs was one of the top-rated television shows, Mr. Burns added to their fortune by form-

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The late George Burns: "I can't possibly die, I'm hooked at the London Palladium."

Newstand Prices	
Andorra	10.00 FF Lebanon 11.3.000
Antilles	12.50 FF Morocco 14 Dh
Cameroon	1.800 CFA Cote d'Ivoire 10.00 FF
Egypt	EE 5 Pakistan 12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF Saudi Arabia 10.00 FF
Gabon	1100 CFA Senegal 1.100 CFA
Greece	350 Dr. Spain 225 PTAS
Italy	2.800 Lira Tunisia 1.250 Dh
Norway	1.250 CFA U.A.E. 10.00 Dh
Jordan	1.250 JD U.S. M. (Est.) 21.20



Bewilderment and Anger / 'I Thought We Were the Perfect Couple'

Jailed Financier's Wife Tells Her Side

By Stephanie Strom
New York Times Service

LONDON — On Feb. 26, 1995, the day her husband helped bring down a venerable British investment bank, Lisa Leeson joined a rather exclusive sorority. Its members include Lori Milken (wife of Michael) and Seema Boesky (former wife of Ivan), part of an elite group whose husbands perpetrated spectacular feats of fraud and illegal financial manipulation.

But unlike her counterparts, Lisa Leeson, though she certainly lived well, has never had the pleasure of enjoying the exalted life of the seriously rich. Although Nicholas W. Leeson managed to rack up more than \$1 billion of losses before his bosses at Barings got wise to his scheme, his house of cards collapsed less than a month before he was to receive a bonus of nearly \$700,000.

Mrs. Leeson had been counting on her husband to quit the rough and tumble of trading, as he had promised, and to use that bonus to buy a house in their native Britain, where they could start a family. Instead, she is finishing a grueling round of interviews to promote sales of her husband's book, "Rogue Trader," an as-told-to account written by a journalist, Edward Whitley, of how Mr. Leeson, at 26, helped to bankrupt one of the oldest and most distinguished merchant banks in Britain.

In doing so, she has broken that exclusive club's unwritten code of silence, a code that normally relegates spouses of front-page felons to the deepest shadows. Not only has she gone public, but she has revealed intimate details of her life and has stared down a public that is often skeptical

when a felon's closest confidante says she has been utterly blind to his flaws or schemes.

Mrs. Leeson's highly public efforts — more than 80 interviews crammed into two weeks — seem to be paying off, for the book has just hit the top of the best-seller lists in Britain. (In the United States, there has been no publicity blitz, and the book has yet to appear on any best-seller lists.)

The Leesons, however, are unlikely to see a penny of profit from the book, which is reported to have earned an advance of more than \$1 million.

"First we have to pay taxes, then the agent, then the writer, then the lawyers," she explained. "And if there's anything left after that, which I doubt there will be, the creditors can come after it."

Doesn't she resent having to plug her husband's book, particularly since she has numerous reservations about it? "It's just something that has to be done," she said. "We have no money and we have a lot of bills to pay."

In some respects, Nick Leeson is a lucky man. His wife, who says she was unaware of his crimes, is a powerful advocate for his cause. She is poised, quick-witted, attractive and patient.

His book, however, is unlikely to win Mr. Leeson much sympathy. In it, he comes across as a brash and cocky trader who thought nothing of dropping his trousers to exhibit a "pasty white" backside to a group of women during a drunken spree in Singapore, or spoiling the stark serenity of a guest house in Japan by trashing it while on a business retreat. "By the time we'd finished it looked like a rugby club changing room," he writes.

Mrs. Leeson dismisses such shenanigans as standard operating procedure for "young fellas out for a drink."

But although she is clearly putting her best face forward, she is no longer the carefree 24-year-old smiling blithely from photos taken when the couple lived in Singapore.

Mrs. Leeson's new smiles were tight and brief in a recent interview in London and she looked older than her 27 years.

She had no answer when asked why people should read her husband's book. "It's difficult for me to say because I didn't write it," she said. "I haven't any idea if he had any message he wanted to get across."

In fact, she is not the book's biggest fan. She is annoyed by a section describing a business trip to New York, where her husband blew off a dinner meeting with Barings executives. He recalls her becoming angry and announcing that she was going shopping. "I hope our credit cards are in good shape," he then quotes her as saying.

The passage brings to mind the image of a high-flying young couple living on an unlimited expense account in a plush apartment, driving expensive sports cars and spending weekends on their yacht, an image bandied about by the British press immediately after the Barings debacle.

It is an image that Mrs. Leeson has worked hard to dispel, repeatedly protesting that the couple did not own a car until shortly before the bank's problems came to light, that they never had a yacht and that their subsidized apartment in Singapore was a perk enjoyed by numerous expatriates.

"I didn't really like that bit," she said of the book's rather cavalier description of her New York spending spree. "I went out to buy presents for friends, to pick up things they had asked me to bring back. I'm not the sort who buys designer fashions. I'm not a big spender."

Still, she would almost certainly like a competing book just out on Barings even less. "The Collapse of Barings," by Stephen Fay, portrays her husband as a greedy, arrogant cad.

As for "Rogue Trader," the book as a whole angers her, she says, because it has renewed all the feelings of betrayal she experienced after her husband was jailed.

"It hurts you know, because I thought we were the perfect couple. I thought Nick knew me and I knew Nick," she added. "Obviously, I didn't."

So why is she still working so hard

on her husband's behalf? "I had no choice," she said. "Nick had to write the book, and I have to promote it. We have bills to pay. It's my task."

She could, of course, have deserted him, but she says she won't do that. Asked if she has considered divorce, she seemed surprised. "No, I've not really thought about that," she said.

She blamed Mr. Whitley for painting an embellished portrait of their lifestyle. The Nick Leeson she knew — the shy, generous, plasterer's son from Walsford, outside London, who made good in the fast world of high finance — does not make much of an appearance in "Rogue Trader."

Yet, she concedes that her memories of her husband are no longer crystal-clear. The couple's belongings were seized by the Singaporean authorities, although she expects them to release her clothing and some small household items.

"I get used to Nick not being around," she said. "It's very difficult trying to keep a memory in your mind when you have nothing tangible to help you out."

Since her husband went to jail, Mrs. Leeson has been living with her parents in West Kingsdown, southeast of London, and working in a tea shop. This has given her the flexibility to visit Mr. Leeson, first in Frankfurt and then in Singapore, where he is serving a 6½-year sentence.

She is allowed one 20-minute visit each month, and sometimes more, but with the costly air fare to Singapore, she plans to go every other month and visit him twice on each trip.

The couple still has not discussed the Barings bankruptcy, and Mrs. Leeson said she was still fuzzy about exactly



Lisa Leeson in London, where she has been promoting her husband's book.

what her husband did. But if Mr. Leeson thinks he's going to get away without giving a full accounting to his wife when he leaves prison, he is wrong. "For my own sanity, I'll have to ask questions, a lot of questions," she said. "It will be more than three years, only

1999, before Mr. Leeson will be eligible to leave prison, and she is a young, attractive woman who is supportive, yes, but also angry and disappointed with him. "I don't kid myself," Mrs. Leeson said. "Things are surely going to be different in three years, sure. But you don't just give up."

COMING UP
Beyond the carnage, grief and tragedy of each bus bombing in Israel is a story of lasting suffering, not only for victims but for their families, friends and society.

FAA Helps Protect Cuban Airspace

By Don Phillips
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Reacting to an incident in which a Cuban jet fighter shot down two unarmed planes off its coast following repeated complaints from Havana that its airspace was being violated, the Federal Aviation Administration has announced strict new measures to punish U.S. pilots who penetrate Cuban airspace in the future.

The FAA said it would use "all available government radar sources" to spot pilots who violate Cuban airspace, meet them as they return to the United States and revoke their licenses on the spot.

In a letter to 33,225 pilots in the South Florida area, the federal aviation administrator, David R. Hinson, also said that in "appropriate cases" the agency would seek maximum civil penalties, seize

aircraft and seek other judicial remedies.

The letter was intended as a warning to the anti-Castro group Brothers to the Rescue and its leader, José Basulto, whose twin-engine Cessna

FAA will use 'all available radar sources' to spot pilots who violate Cuban airspace.

337 was the only one of three planes to survive the attack by a Cuban MiG-29 on Feb. 24. Brothers to the Rescue is based in Florida.

U.S. officials said Mr. Basulto had violated Cuban airspace in the Feb. 24 flight, penetrating 3 miles (5 kilometers) within the 12-mile territorial limit, although the other two planes did not. Cuba said all three planes had violated its airspace.

The FAA letter to pilots clarified that the agency will strictly enforce a March 1 "cease and desist" order that gives U.S. officials broad power to take emergency action against pilots who violate airspace.

"FAA has been given ac-

cess to and will use all available government radar sources to establish whether Cuban airspace has been violated," the letter said. "Airmen should be aware that if the evidence obtained

from any source establishes a violation of Cuban airspace, their airmen certificates will be revoked on an emergency basis. In addition, maximum civil penalties, seizure of aircraft and judicial remedies will be pursued in appropriate cases.

Cuban authorities claim there were at least nine airspace violations by Brothers pilots between May 1994 and January this year, including dropping leaflets on Havana on Jan. 9 and Jan. 13.

In August, the FAA said it was moving to suspend Mr. Basulto's license for 120 days for flying into Cuban airspace July 13 and dropping bumper stickers for the group, but that case is in the appeals process and Mr. Basulto still has his license.

A senior FAA official said the cease and desist order allows the FAA to seize licenses, with the pilot then having the right to appeal to the National Transportation Safety Board within 10 days. A pilot cannot reapply for a license for a year after revocation.

Any pilot who flies without a license is subject to criminal penalties of up to three years

in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

U.S. Policy Criticized

The United States was criticized for its Cuban and Colombian policies Saturday at a presidential summit meeting of the five-nation Andean Pact. The Associated Press reported from Trujillo, Peru.

Foreign Minister Francisco Tudela of Peru said U.S. efforts to tighten its trade embargo against Cuba were in violation of international law.

"Peru opposes all measures that exceed the framework of international law," Mr. Tudela said. "An embargo is a matter of internal U.S. law. It is not an act of international law."

The United States moved to toughen its embargo after Cuba shot down two small planes belonging to Cuban exile organizations.

Colombia used the forum to seek support from other South American nations in the face of the U.S. government's decision to cut off economic aid to Bogotá.

Washington took the step because of Colombia's failure to battle drug trafficking. A major factor was mounting evidence that President Ernesto Samper financed his 1994 election campaign with donations from the Cali cocaine cartel.

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Pardo of Colombia called the U.S. decision "unfortunate" and said it would weaken international efforts to combat drug trafficking.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Taiwan Flights Will Be Diverted

TAIPEI (Reuters) — Taiwan said Sunday that more than 300 flights each day will have to alter their routes because of China's planned military exercises starting on Tuesday.

"Between March 12 and 20, more than 300 flights must alter their routes because we consider the area near Communist China's exercises a danger zone," said Tsai Ming-tze, a spokesman for the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

"We will inform airlines that fly the A-1 and G-581 routes to fly 15 nautical miles to the south for safety reasons," he said. "The A1 route is so busy that flights to Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia and the United States will be affected."

Post Offices Open Sunday in Italy

ROME (AP) — Sunday is no longer a day of rest for Italian postal

workers. Post offices were open in 15 major cities, including Rome, Milan and Naples, in an experiment aimed at improving a postal service often rated among Europe's least efficient.

Customers will be able to send telegrams, exchange foreign currency, send registered letters and buy stamps and telephone cards.

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

MONDAY: Australia, Gibraltar.
TUESDAY: Lebanon, Mauritius, Zambia.
WEDNESDAY: Cuba.
THURSDAY: Andorra, French Guiana, Guyana.
FRIDAY: Belarus, Hungary, Liberia.

Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.

WEATHER

Europe				Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by AccuWeather.				Asia			
City	Today	Low	High	City	Today	Low	High	City	Today	Low	High
Algeria	17/22	10/15	17/22	Amman	17/22	10/15	17/22	Beijing	25/31	24/25	25/31
Amsterdam	17/22	10/15	17/22	Baghdad	17/22	10/15	17/22	Bangkok	25/31	24/25	25/31
Antwerp	17/22	10/15	17/22	Bahia	17/22	10/15	17/22	Bombay	25/31	24/25	25/31
Athens	17/22	10/15	17/22	Batavia	17/22	10/15	17/22	Buenos Aires	25/31	24/25	25/31
Bahia	17/22	10/15	17/22	Bombay	17/22	10/15	17/22	Calcutta	25/31	24/25	25/31
Bangkok	17/22	10/15	17/22	Buenos Aires	17/22	10/15	17/22	Chennai	25/31	24/25	25/31
Barcelona	17/22	10/15	17/22	Calcutta	17/22	10/15	17/22	Dhaka	25/31	24/25	25/31
Berlin	17/22	10/15	17/22	Chennai	17/22	10/15	17/22	Hankow	25/31	24/25	25/31
Bombay	17/22	10/15	17/22	Dhaka	17/22	10/15	17/22	Hong Kong	25/31	24/25	25/31
Buenos Aires	17/22	10/15	17/22	Hankow	17/22	10/15	17/22	Kobe	25/31	24/25	25/31
Calcutta	17/22	10/15	17/22	Hong Kong	17/22	10/15	17/22	London	17/22	10/15	17/22
Chennai	17/22	10/15	17/22	Kobe	17/22	10/15	17/22	Los Angeles	17/22	10/15	17/22
Dhaka	17/22	10/15	17/22	London	17/22	10/15	17/22	Manila	17/22	10/15	17/22
Hankow	17/22	10/15	17/22	Los Angeles	17/22	10/15	17/22	Medan	17/22	10/15	17/22
Hong Kong	17/22	10/15	17/22	Manila	17/22	10/15	17/22	Mumbai	17/22	10/15	17/22
Los Angeles	17/22	10/15	17/22	Medan	17/22	10/15	17/22	Nagasaki	17/22	10/15	17/22
Manila	17/22	10/15	17/22	Mumbai	17/22	10/15	17/22	Osaka	17/22	10/15	17/22
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Mumbai	17/22	10/15	17/22	Osaka	17/22	10/15	17/22	Rangoon	17/22	10/15	17/22
Nagasaki	17/22	10/15	17/22	Paris	17/22	10/15	17/22	Seoul	17/22	10/15	17/22
Osaka	17/22	10/15	17/22	Rangoon	17/22	10/15	17/22	Singapore	17/22	10/15	17/22
Paris	17/22	10/15	17/22	Seoul	17/22	10/15	17/22	Taipei	17/22	10/15	17/22
Rangoon	17/22	10/15	17/22	Singapore	17/22	10/15	17/22	Tokyo	17/22	10/15	17/22
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Tokyo	17/22	10/15	17/22								

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THE AMERICAS

Buchanan Ups Endorsement Ante

Dole's People Are Warned by Bush Veterans to Be Tough

By David S. Broder
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — For the past two weeks, veterans of President George Bush's 1992 campaign have been warning their counterparts in Bob Dole's organization that they had better be prepared for tough tactics in dealing with Patrick J. Buchanan.

Now, Bay Buchanan, chief strategist for her brother's presidential bid, has signaled that negotiations for a Buchanan endorsement of the near-

certain Republican nominee will be even rougher than they were four years ago.

"There is bad blood in a way there wasn't with Bush," Miss Buchanan said Saturday.

"Mr. Dole and his surrogates made this very person-

al" by labeling her brother "an extremist," she said, "so they have to make him

whole" before he can even consider suspending active campaigning as all the other defeated major contenders except the magazine publisher Steve Forbes have done.

"They have to give our people — and Pat himself — a reason to come aboard," she said. "They created this dilemma. We can't solve it for them."

Mr. Buchanan's continued campaigning, and the fervor of his attacks on Mr. Dole, the Senate majority leader, will make it difficult for the

Kansas to turn his attention to President Bill Clinton. It could also exacerbate divisions within the party while making it more difficult to attract the independent voters that will be essential in the general election.

In other words, it could lead to just the kind of scenario that helped weaken Mr. Bush four years ago.

Late in May 1992, Mr. Buchanan was saying of Mr. Bush: "His central problem is the perception of people that he doesn't know where he's going, that he's not [got] a firm hand on the tiller, that he's not a strong leader, that he responds to polls, that he has no ideas on how to resolve America's social problems or economic problems."

In the past week, the conservative commentator has declared that Mr. Dole is "clearly clueless of what's going on in America," and has added that "the biggest taxer in the history of the Republican Party," a Beltway collaborator with President Clinton, has run "a hollow campaign" with "no ideas in it."

In the end, Mr. Dole and his strategists know they will have to negotiate a settlement with Mr. Buchanan because they want him and his supporters aboard. But veterans of the Bush campaign are urging them to be tough.

"I would not spend my spring and summer kowtowing to Buchanan," said the chairman of Mr. Bush's 1992 campaign, Robert Teeter.

Charles Black, who conducted some of the 1992 negotiations for Mr. Bush, said: "Pat and Bay are honorable people, but they are very strong in their own beliefs. You have to be patient, but you have to be prepared to be very firm with them."

They and others involved in the last campaign acknowledge that their views reflect their belief that "the Buchanan problem" was mishandled on their watch.

There was little they could do — and little Mr. Dole can do now, they believe — to dissuade Mr. Buchanan from



Patrick J. Buchanan giving a thumbs-up after a debate with Steve Forbes, left, and Alan Keyes in Dallas.

Michael Maloney/Reuters

carrying his challenge all the way through the final round of primaries in early June.

But many of them believe it was a mistake to have given Mr. Buchanan a prime-time speaking slot on the opening night of the Republican convention in Houston in return for his agreement to endorse Mr. Bush unreservedly from the podium.

Although Mr. Buchanan did, indeed, endorse Mr. Bush in a speech that was given to the Bush operatives in advance, they blame themselves

for looking only at the endorsement paragraph.

The rest of the speech — a strongly worded declaration of "cultural war" on all the forces that Mr. Buchanan saw as a threat to the country's economic and social health and his party's ideological purity — was skipped over.

The Bush people thought that anything Mr. Buchanan said would be far overshadowed by President Ronald Reagan's speech, which followed it. But because the convention schedule slipped, it

was Mr. Buchanan that Americans heard in prime time, and the negative response to it put Republicans on the defensive before they left Houston.

Mr. Dole's strategists mostly shrug their shoulders at their inability to get Mr. Buchanan or Mr. Forbes to concede the fight. But inside and outside the campaign, there is at least a professed readiness to take a tougher line with Mr. Buchanan.

Vin Weber, national co-chairman of the Dole effort,

said: "We made a mistake in 1992 in giving too much to Pat. He's at odds with the party on the whole question of America's international leadership role. We should give him respect, but not a major role."

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Herald Tribune
THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY

POLITICAL

Rhetorical Style Needs Work, Dole Agrees

ABOARD THE DOLE PLANE — Senator Bob Dole was talking about talking, which might seem like Newt Gingrich or Bill Clinton holding a seminar on silence.

There never was much talking around the Dole kitchen table back in Russell, Kansas, during the Depression era. Maybe a few words about school, the weather, or how Bob, the oldest son and athlete of the family, was doing in basketball.

"We ate our dinner and did our dishes and that was that," Mr. Dole said. His little brother, Kenny, was the closest thing to a Dole with the gift of gab, but even he preferred the quick wisecrack to sustained dialogue.

In the Midwestern world from which Mr. Dole comes, the English language was treated with parsimonious respect: Never use a sentence when a word would do, and why open your mouth at all if a nod of the head or a hand gesture could get the meaning across? And the most flattering thing you could do was insult someone.

On the one hand, Mr. Dole seems comfortable in the all-talk all-the-time media culture that dominates the information age. Indeed, he has appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press" more than any other guest. Still, one of the most glaring weaknesses of his candidacy is his difficulty finding the words to define himself and his policies.

Mr. Dole does not dispute the criticism, and has started to try to answer it, in part by portraying himself as a doer rather than a talker, and in part by talking more about himself as a way of conveying what he wants to do.

"I'm working on it," he said in a recent

interview. But his basic rhetorical style, he said, is unlikely to change, because it reflects the way he has encountered the world for seven decades. (WP)

Campaign Bills Rising

WASHINGTON — As Senator Dole edges closer to the \$37 million spending limit for the presidential primaries, Republican strategists are exploring ways to maneuver around federal election laws to keep his campaign afloat financially until the nominating convention in August.

The Dole campaign will not say how much the senator has spent on the 20 contests since Jan. 31, but the amount is expected to add significantly to the \$25 million he had spent to that point.

When Mr. Dole hits the \$37 million mark, there will be no climactic closing of his campaign activities; Republican resources will be standing by.

The Republican National Committee could shift some Dole campaign workers to its payroll through the convention. State political parties could pay for some of Mr. Dole's travel expenses.

The issue for Republicans is to make sure that any pre-convention spending is on behalf of party interests, and not the interests of any specific candidate. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Steve Forbes, resisting calls from former Vice President Dan Quayle and others that he drop out of the race for the Republican presidential nomination: "It's not his decision to make, and I'm taking my message to the voters. If this campaign was simply about personalities, he'd have a point. But this campaign is about issues." (AP)

Away From Politics

• The space shuttle Columbia landed safely to end a 15-day voyage that was fraught with difficulties and included the loss of an Italian-made satellite. The shuttle's voyage lasted 15 days after it was extended twice, one day for science experiments and another because of bad weather. (Reuters)

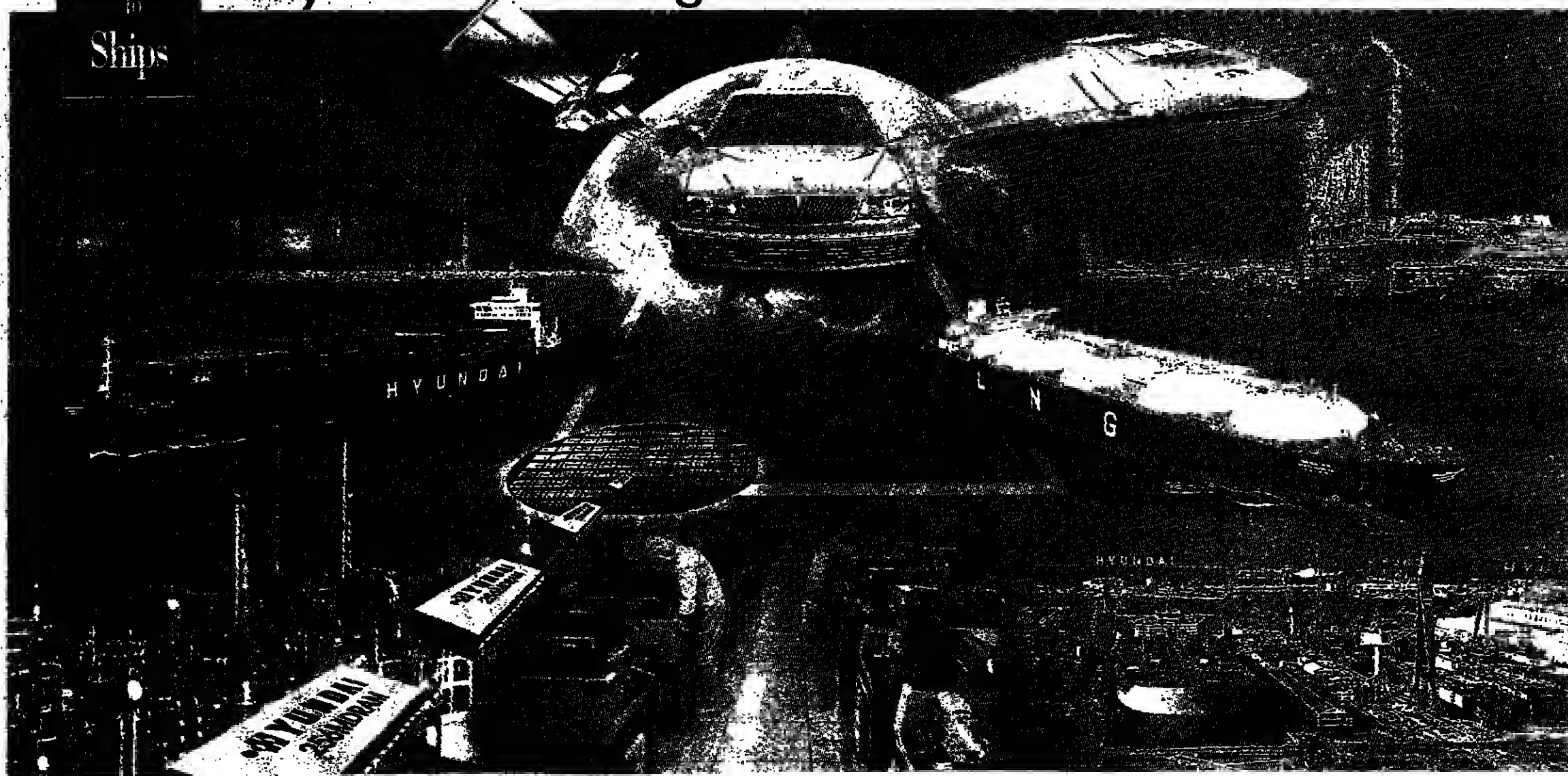
• An electrician doing maintenance work accidentally started a small fire in the family quarters of the White House. The blaze was quickly extinguished and there was minimal damage. The Clintons were out in the mansion at the time. (AP)

• Mayor Bill Campbell of Atlanta, who for the last two years has been bedeviled by controversy surrounding the annual spring pilgrimage here by thousands of black college students, has appointed a critic of his handling of the April 19-21 event to lead a committee to coordinate the city's response. The raucous weekend street party that is called Freaknik has each year positioned the mayor between city residents and cruising caravans of students. (NYT)

• New York's Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center has been fined \$12,000, the maximum allowed by state law, in a case in which a surgeon operated on the wrong side of a patient's brain, officials of the State Health Department said. (NYT)

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Bangladeshi and Rivals Begin Talks

Amid Clashes, Opposition Vows to Continue Strike Until Zia Quits

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Opposition leaders began negotiations Sunday with the president on resolving a two-year struggle for control of Bangladesh, but they said they would continue a general strike until the prime minister stepped down.

At the request of Prime Minister Khairul Karim, President Abdur Rahman Biswas met separately with three opposition leaders.

As Hasina Wazed, leader of the main opposition party, the Awami League, was holding discussions with the president, her supporters clashed with the police. At least 100 people were injured in Dhaka and three other cities, the police said.

The police fired tear gas at opposition activists, who exploded crude bombs in

the Gulistan commercial district in Dhaka.

Clashes between government supporters, opponents and the police killed at least eight people and wounded more than 400 since Saturday, the opening day of an indefinite strike that has paralyzed commerce in more than 60 cities, officials said. The death toll in political violence last week was 26.

The government on Sunday released three opposition leaders, the last of seven arrested in February.

President Biswas also discussed the political impasse with Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury, acting president of the Jatiya party, and Maulana Matur Rahman Nizami, the secretary-general of the rightist Islamic Society.

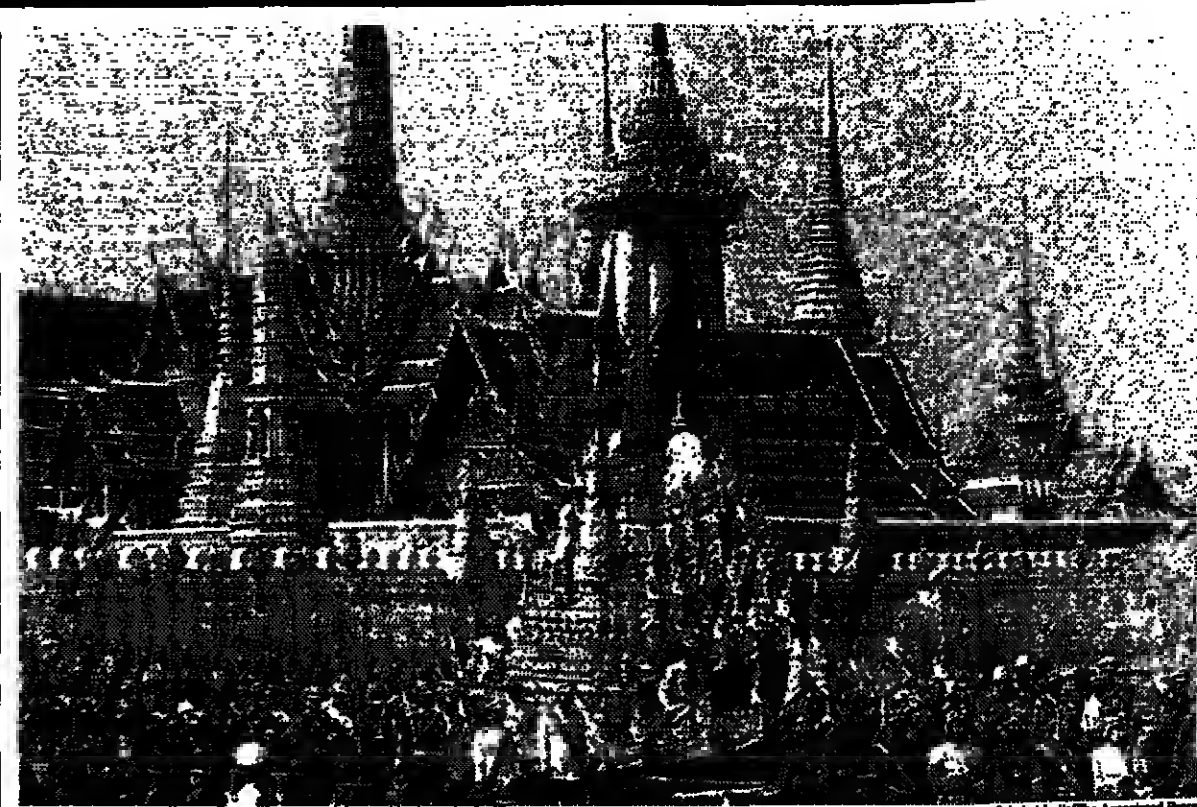
"I suggested to the president," Sheikh Hasina said, "that the results of

the Feb. 15 general election be annulled and he install a neutral caretaker government to conduct new elections within three months."

"We will wait for the president's reply for 24 hours," she said. "Meanwhile, our movement will continue."

Begum Zia has already agreed that future elections be conducted by a neutral government, but she insists that the Parliament elected Feb. 15 make the necessary constitutional change.

The Hasina-Zia rivalry has dominated the two years of often-violent protests against Begum Zia's government. Their dispute is over how elections can be conducted in an atmosphere of distrust. But with no major policy differences between the two, their fight often appears to be simply a struggle for power. (AP, AFP)



ROYAL FUNERAL — The remains of the Princess Mother being carried in a funeral chariot past the Grand Palace in Bangkok on Sunday in preparation for her cremation. A commoner who bore two kings, Sangwal Mahidol died in July at age 94. Thailand observes an extended mourning for the royal family.

Okinawa Base Foes Vow to Fight On

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

NAHA, Okinawa — Okinawans are somewhat uncomfortable with the idea that, as the Okinawa Times remarked in an editorial, it took the "sacrifice of a schoolgirl" to make progress in the movement to scale back the U.S. military bases that occupy 20 percent of the land on this Japanese island.

But there is no denying that the abduction and rape of a 12-year-old girl, for which three U.S. servicemen were sentenced on Thursday, unleashed a public outcry against the bases, focused world attention on the issue and forced Washington and Tokyo to deal with a situation that they had tended to sweep under the rug.

Now, with the trial of the servicemen over, opponents of the bases vowed to push on, but acknowledged that their struggle might now become a bit more difficult.

"We just hope the media people will keep an interest in

the Okinawan issue," said Suzyyo Takazato, a Naha city councilwoman who opposes the bases. "The media people are saying this will be the end. This is not the end. It has only just started."

The Naha District Court on Thursday sentenced Seaman Marcus Gill and Private First Class Rodolfo Harp of the Marines to seven years in a Japanese prison. The third serviceman, Private First Class Kendrick Ledet of the Marines, was sentenced to 6½ years.

Many Okinawans were not satisfied with the sentence, even though it was somewhat long by Japanese standards. "The sentence is too light," said Hiroko Takayasu, a housewife. "I'm sure the victim will be fearful for the rest of her life."

Newspaper editorials said that putting the three men in jail does not get at the root cause of the crime — the presence of the U.S. bases.

Okinawa, which occupies less than 1 percent of the land area of Japan, is home to

about three-fifths of the 47,000 U.S. troops in Japan and 75 percent of the U.S. bases as measured by land area. The heavy military presence here results from Okinawa's being occupied by the United States until 1972 and also, many Okinawans feel, by mainland Japan's treatment of residents as second-class citizens.

With the rape trial over, attention is now turning to the Japan's efforts to renew a lease for a plot of privately owned land inside a U.S. military communications base.

The lease expires at the end of this month and the landowner, a pacifist who achieved notoriety by once burning the Japanese flag, refuses to renew. Governor Masahide Ota of Okinawa, a longtime opponent of the bases, has the power to sign the lease in place of landowner but has refused to do so.

So the national government has started court proceedings to allow Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto to sign the lease. The final hear-

ing, at which Mr. Ota will testify, will be held Monday.

It is not clear what effect losing this one plot of land — should it come to that — would have on the operations of the communications base, which many people suspect is used for electronic eavesdropping on other countries.

But leases for 34 more plots of land owned by base opponents expire next March. The U.S. government says it is confident Japan will find some way of continuing the use of the land by the U.S. bases.

Attention is also focusing on a special committee, made up of government officials from the United States and Japan, that is developing a plan to consolidate some of the bases in Okinawa and to reduce the noise, pollution and safety hazards produced by military training exercises.

The committee, formed in the aftermath of the rape, has a deadline of November. But parts of its plan will be revealed when President Bill Clinton visits Japan next month.

Sihanouk, III, Names Eventual Regent

PHNOM PENH — King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia says he is suffering from serious arterial and brain problems and has directed that the president of Parliament, Chea Sim, become regent when these ailments incapacitate him.

The king, who has been in China for several weeks for treatment, said his health would not prevent him from returning home Monday.

The 73-year-old monarch, in a message to the first prime minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, said a detailed report from his Chinese doctors showed that his cancer and diabetes were in regression.

"But my future, even short to mid-term, is seriously hypothetical," he wrote in the message to his son.

"There is a very 'advanced' calcification and obstruction of my arteries, a lesion in my brain, an infil-

tration of fat in my liver (this third detail is less serious)," he wrote.

The brain lesion and the growing risk of a coronary thrombosis from the arteriosclerosis "will inevitably one day lead to my incapacity to work and to serve our country and its people," he stressed.

Who this happens, "Chea Sim will replace me as regent," the king ordered, adding that on his eventual death a new king should be

elected by a seven-member Throne Council.

The council comprises Chea Sim and the co-prime ministers, Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen, and the heads of the two major Buddhist orders in Cambodia.

King Sihanouk has said he would like to see Prince Ranariddh, the second oldest of his five surviving sons, don the crown on his death, which an astrologer has said will come in his 74th year.

THE DETAILS MAKE THE PENINSULA.

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THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: A Journey at the Dawn of the Twenty-First Century

By Robert D. Kaplan, 476 pages, \$27.50, Random House.

Reviewed by Colin Thubron

A TRAVEL book may be many things: geographical exploration, backpacker's jaunt or the survey of a whole culture. But rarely can one have started out, as Robert Kaplan's "The Ends of the Earth" does, with a goal so self-consciously ambitious as to find "a paradigm for understanding the world in the early decades of the twenty-first century."

After a grueling journey in West Africa, Kaplan leaps frogs to Egypt, Turkey and Iran, then enters the newly independent Central Asian states of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, and crosses into Chinese Sinkiang. From Kashgar he enters Pakistan by the Karakoram Highway, then flies briefly to India and on to Thailand, Laos and at last Cambodia.

It is a journey tailored, above all, to move along the fault lines of Asia, through regions where central governments are either newly independent or keep only tenuous hold. Everywhere the pressure of rural migration into the swollen cities, the effects of industrial pollution, overpopulation and ecological waste confront weak, corrupt or uncaring regimes. This is the subject of Kaplan's book: the looming prospect of an impoverished world future. He hunts down evidence for the coming dystopia with an ecologist's anxiety and a journalist's nose for catastrophe. The picture he paints is almost uniformly dark.

Above all, he seeks to find a shape to how the nation-states of the Third World will survive into the next few decades. In this way, Kaplan's forward-looking book is an interesting counterpoint to his more historically based "Balkan Ghosts."

The urgency of the project, and the breadth and diligence of his research, make "The Ends of the Earth" an impressive work. Most travel books seem trivial beside it. But in the end, of course, the sheer complexity and variety of peoples defeat him. They simply will not conform to any overarching prognosis. He is driven to conclude that some will overcome the dilemmas of ecology and overpopulation through "ingenu-

ity" while others will not. A people's "culture," finally, is all-important.

Yet it is this culture that is most elusive and that refuses to yield itself up. Kaplan falls back repeatedly on the studies of Western scholars rather than giving primacy to his own experience. Long stretches of the book might as well have been written in the library.

Perhaps "The Ends of the Earth" would have benefited from the more subtle and relaxed techniques of the classic travel book, which amplify, complicate or humanize theories and statistics. But "culture" — in the sense of people's domestic habits or the quality of their minds and memories — escapes him. He scarcely settles anywhere long enough to experience it. In some countries he does little more than rely on his local guide and a visit or two to a minister or a Western aid worker. Central Asia passes him by in tableaux of rootless youths and depressing suburbs. He over stays to discover its underflow of values and familial ties, or even the Islamic hospitality that so movingly survives. His chapter on Laos passes with no native contact at all.

So all too frequently Kaplan's observations are confined to jeremiads about the state of the roads and local food, hassles at border posts and the performance of public transport. He harps on the absence of cleanliness and neatness as if he were a package tourist rather than a journalist with 15 years' experience in the Third World. Conversely, he greets the appearance of compact disks or cordless telephones as synonymous with civilization. The ghost of a sanitized West lingers behind every judgment.

Yet the book is full of valuable material, however much is secondhand. Kaplan marshals his reading to telling effect. He is factually precise. On Iran, where he stayed longest, he becomes suddenly illuminating in his observa-



tion (so that one wishes he had lingered longer everywhere). In other countries he is refreshingly positive about the role of Islam.

"The Ends of the Earth" is a healthy antidote to the sight-seer's tour that skips blindly between sites of historic interest or scenic beauty. Kaplan rarely pays these attention. In fact when he does try to evoke landscape, or attempts to extract meaning from architecture, the results are embarrassing. The history he gives is accurate but skin-deep.

This journey started, he says, with the search for a paradigm with which to understand the future. But in

reality he was already carrying this paradigm with him. It is a vision of the early 21st century: a vista of weakened nation-states and the countervailing rise of free zones of "creative chaos" — a mutating world map characterized by eco-regions and areas of linguistic or economic cohesion. (The prognosis is loosely based on the work of Anne Buttner, Samuel P. Huntington and others.)

But Kaplan adds wryly: "My problem, though, was that I kept traveling, an activity that inevitably complicated my paradigm." His journey revealed to him "how culture, politics, geography, history, and economics were inextricable" — an overdue revelation, you might think, for a journalist of his experience.

Any tidy certainties effectively break down in the kaleidoscope of his journey. So, at least, he has assembled a store of challenging facts, and reached no pat conclusions.

Colin Thubron, whose most recent book is "The Last Heart of Asia," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BOOKS

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Jim Bitterman, Paris correspondent for ABC news, is reading "Crossing by Night" by David Aaron.

"I picked it up out of curiosity because it's by someone I know, the U.S. ambassador to the OECD. It's excellent, especially coming from someone who has had several careers. I hope when I go into my fourth or fifth career, I can write as well." (Barry James, IHT)

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

THE Barry Crane Top 500 winner, the player with the most master points in a year, is normally known by Dec. 31, and often earlier.

It had appeared that Eddie Wold was the winner with 2,385, and that Jeff Meckstroth was just one point behind.

Finally the American Contract Bridge League's directors made a ruling worthy of King Solomon. They gave Meckstroth just enough disputed points to make the result a tie, the first in the history of a contest that goes back 59 years.

The diagramed deal helped the United States team to defeat a strong French squad in the semifinal of the Bermuda Bowl in Beijing. Meckstroth as West responded one spade to his partner's one-heart opening. Since he uses a strong-club method, this semi-psyche bid was fairly safe: a one-heart opener, limited to about 15 points, almost always makes a minimum rebid. There was no danger of going overboard with a leap to game.

A result was that North-

South, with 26 points between them, played in three clubs and made a lucky 11 tricks. The only sound game contract for North-South was four spades, a 4-3 fit, so Meckstroth's response stole the opponent's suit.

In the replay, the French West passed his partner's one-heart opening, as one must do playing standard methods. The American North-South, Bob Wolff and Bob Hamman, then bid skillfully to four spades and scored 420. The Americans gained seven imps en route to victory.

NORTH
♠ A Q 10 4
♥ 9 8
♦ A 7 2
♣ A 7 4

WEST
♠ 8 6 2
♥ Q 8 4
♦ J 10 8
♣ 5 5 2

EAST (D)
♠ 7 5
♥ A K 10 7 3
♦ Q 8 4
♣ Q 10 8

SOUTH
♠ K J 10
♥ J 8 2
♦ K 5 3
♣ K 7 10 3

East and West were vulnerable. The bidding:
East: 1♥, 2♣, 3♥, 4♠, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥, 8♥, 9♥, 10♥, 11♥, 12♥, 13♥, 14♥, 15♥, 16♥, 17♥, 18♥, 19♥, 20♥, 21♥, 22♥, 23♥, 24♥, 25♥, 26♥, 27♥, 28♥, 29♥, 30♥, 31♥, 32♥, 33♥, 34♥, 35♥, 36♥, 37♥, 38♥, 39♥, 40♥, 41♥, 42♥, 43♥, 44♥, 45♥, 46♥, 47♥, 48♥, 49♥, 50♥, 51♥, 52♥, 53♥, 54♥, 55♥, 56♥, 57♥, 58♥, 59♥, 60♥, 61♥, 62♥, 63♥, 64♥, 65♥, 66♥, 67♥, 68♥, 69♥, 70♥, 71♥, 72♥, 73♥, 74♥, 75♥, 76♥, 77♥, 78♥, 79♥, 80♥, 81♥, 82♥, 83♥, 84♥, 85♥, 86♥, 87♥, 88♥, 89♥, 90♥, 91♥, 92♥, 93♥, 94♥, 95♥, 96♥, 97♥, 98♥, 99♥, 100♥.

EUROPE

Rightist Chief In Spain Sees A Deal With Nationalists

MADRID — Spain's conservative Popular Party was confident of making a deal with nationalist regional parties to form a government and avoid another general election this year, its leader was quoted on Sunday as saying.

"I am convinced there are many more points of agreement with the nationalists than of disagreement on concrete policies," José María Aznar told the Roman Catholic rightist newspaper ABC in his first interview since a general election a week ago.

His Popular Party has been in talks with the Catalan Convergence and Union party, the Basque Nationalist Party and the Canary Island coalition after falling 20 seats short of an absolute majority.

Mr. Aznar said there was much common ground between the Popular Party and the nationalists on Europe, fiscal reform, saving, investment and job creation.

All parties, he said, were responsible for creating a stable government and avoiding a new election, which could derail Spain from membership in Europe's single currency system and plunge it into economic turmoil.

"Either there is a stable and secure government or there is a period of instability resulting in an anticipated election, which would be extraordinarily negative and gravely prejudicial" to Spain's economic interest, Mr. Aznar said.

The main hurdle in forming a coalition government is likely to be the Convergence and Union party, which holds 16 seats in Parliament and is the most powerful of the Popular Party's potential partners.

Negotiations with the Catalan leader, Jordi Pujol, are likely to be long and hard, as traditional animosities between both parties lurk in the background.

Mr. Aznar said past insults and injuries must be forgotten in order to make progress, but he was vague on the Popular Party's current stance on linguistic policy, which could turn into one of the main stumbling blocks in negotiations with Convergence and Union.

The Popular Party has stated in the past that schools should offer a choice between Castilian and regional languages, a position hotly disputed by the Catalans.



A priest being arrested in Versailles, France, after an anti-abortion protest that officials had banned.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

London Ready to Set Format for Irish Vote

LONDON — The British government will establish a format for elections in Northern Ireland if local parties cannot agree on one among themselves, the junior minister for Northern Ireland, Michael Ancram, said Sunday.

"We will resume dialogue with them again tomorrow, until Wednesday, and we hope that with good will and flexibility we can reach an agreed position," Mr. Ancram said.

"But if we can't, the government will have to make a judgment as to the best way of moving forward," he said. "It will have to be very quick."

U.K. to Vote on Euro?

PALERMO, Sicily — The British cabinet will prepare this week for deliberations on whether to conduct a referendum on joining the single European currency, Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said.

Mr. Rifkind, at a meeting of EU foreign ministers here, said he had

been asked by Prime Minister John Major to draw up a discussion paper on the "circumstances in which a referendum might be useful," and would distribute the document to fellow ministers this week.

He added that he had not been asked to make a recommendation and would not be drawn out on whether he favored a popular vote.

Mr. Major, under pressure from opponents in his own party, announced last week that a decision would be made soon on whether the Conservatives would go into the next election with a pledge for a referendum. (AFP)

Vienna Tax Rankles

BONN — The German transport minister, Matthias Wissmann, accused Austria on Sunday of discriminating against other European Union countries with its plan to introduce an annual fee for using its network of motorways and trunk roads.

Mr. Wissmann said he would raise the matter at a meeting of EU transport ministers on Monday in Brussels and would also hold talks with the EU's transport commissioner, Neil Kinnock, on Vienna's plans to bring in the fee system next year.

"It makes absolutely no allowance for whether a driver uses a road once or all the time," Mr. Wissmann said. Cars face an annual fee of 550 schillings (\$53); a tourist pass would be 150 schillings. (Reuters)

Calendar

EU events scheduled for Monday:

BRUSSELS: Economic and finance ministers discuss the European Commission's 1996 work schedule on fraud and the funds to be delegated for audiovisual development.

BRUSSELS: Transport ministers examine relations with the United States in aviation.

BRUSSELS: The commissioner for internal markets and finances, Mario Monti, meets the Austrian finance minister, Viktor Klima.

BRUSSELS: The agriculture commissioner, Franz Fischler, meets the Costa Rican foreign minister, José Rossi. Sources: Agence Europe, AFP

Czech Returnee Gets Castles, and Big Bills

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service

NELAHOZEVES, Czech Republic — In the late 1980s, William Lobkowicz was just a well-educated young Bostonian from a comfortable home, with a promising career in real estate. His surname suggested a Slavic background but nothing else hinted at the strange life that awaited him.

As anti-Communist rebellions began spreading across Eastern Europe in November 1989, however, Mr. Lobkowicz, like many American-born children of refugees, felt the urge to discover the land of his forefathers, in this case Czechoslovakia, which his grandfather fled in 1948, when the Communists took power.

"When the revolution reached Prague, I thought, 'I've got to go,'" he recalled.

He had visited Czechoslovakia three times as a teenager, but his March 1990 trip proved a revelation. "This time I wanted to stay," said Mr. Lobkowicz, 34, a Harvard graduate. "I wanted to learn Czech, to find my roots. I was full of enthusiasm. A few months later I settled here. I thought I could keep myself by advising companies that wanted to relocate here."

But, he soon discovered, he was no typical returnee. His aristocratic Bohemian family had lost everything after 1948 but its name was still synonymous with wealth, power and nobility.

When the government began returning property confiscated by the Communists, he found himself with a winery, a brewery, a mineral-water spa, extensive forests, a 60,000-book library, a valuable art collection and no fewer than 10 castles.

"I only knew about 30 or 40 percent of what we had owned," he said on a visit to Nelahozes, the 16th-century castle overlooking Antoo Dvorak's birthplace that now houses part of the family's art collection. "At different times the family had owned over 100 castles. It took endless research to find out what we were due."

Today, with William representing his father, Martin, who has chosen to continue living in Boston, the Lobkowicz dynasty is once again one of this country's great property-owning families. In some ways it is as if four decades of Communist rule had never occurred.

"We had lived here for 700 years and we had been away for 40 years, which is really not very long," Mr. Lobkowicz said, clearly comfortable in his new patrician mantle.

But in other important ways, things have changed. Under Communism, most of the castles fell into acute disrepair, the businesses were badly run and half the contents of the library were destroyed. Now, rather than becoming a post-Communist lord of the manor, Mr. Lobkowicz finds himself struggling to rescue a patrimony that needs far more money than it is capable of producing.

He clearly feels a responsibility toward his family name, which during the Austro-Hungarian Empire was associated equally with politics and the arts. But, he insists, he also wants to save an important part of Czech cultural heritage. "No other family is doing what we're doing," he said.

It has not been easy. He introduced modern management techniques into the brewery, winery and mineral-water company and they all are now in the black. He rescued the family library from damp government warehouses and placed it in safe storage until its permanent home is determined.

He also restored the Nelahozes Castle, 32 kilometers (20 miles) north of Prague, so its art can be viewed by fee-paying tourists and its rooms rented out for receptions and concerts.

But most of the other castles pose problems. Under the restitution laws, occupants of confiscated properties have 10 years in which to move out. So Roudnice, a 250-room baroque castle 43 kilometers north of Prague that long served as the Lobkowicz family's principal residence, will continue to house the Czech army's music academy through the end of the century.

The family has held onto four other castles in northern and central Bohemia, including Vysoky Chlumec, where Lobkowicz beer is produced, and Bilina, the mineral-water spa.

Where possible, Mr. Lobkowicz and his wife, Sandra, are opening castles to tourists and setting up restaurants. In the United States, Mr. Lobkowicz's parents are trying to raise money through a nonprofit American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture.

Compared with the rest of the Czech Republic, the Lobkowicz properties are faring well. But even Mr. Lobkowicz wonders whether he can make ends meet without selling some paintings from the family art collection.

He has set his heart on one final restitution — of the Lobkowicz Palace, which is part of Prague Castle and is now the Czech History Museum.

"It would be a good place to put our library," he said hopefully. For the moment, the government has said no.

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INTERNATIONAL

Chechen Snipers Active in Grozny

The Associated Press
GROZNY, Russia—Most of the Chechen rebel gunmen who launched a fierce four-day assault on Grozny had withdrawn from the city Sunday, but bands of snipers continued to fire on Russian positions.

The Russian military command said no major combat action was reported, but sporadic clashes between federal troops and "bandit formations" took place Saturday night and Sunday morning. According to the Chechen Interior Ministry, most of the gun battles were fought in the

Staropromyslovsky and Zavadskoy districts in the north of the city.

A ministry spokesman told the ITAR-Tass news agency that Chechen militants fired on government positions five times during the night. No casualties were reported, the spokesman said.

Chechen sniper positions were also reported in the industrial southern section of the city where a pipeline and oil storage depot, set ablaze Friday night, continued to burn, ITAR-Tass said.

Firemen were not able to extinguish the fire because of

the snipers, it said. "Federal troops units and Chechen law enforcement agencies have been sent there to eliminate them," a spokesman at the Russian military command told the Interfax news agency.

The spokesman said it would take several days to flush out the snipers and dispose of mines placed in many buildings in the city.

Following the four-day assault, Grozny was largely without water or electricity and bread was scarce, ITAR-Tass said. A food market opened in downtown Grozny

on Sunday, but there was a small choice of foodstuffs and prices have risen sharply since the fighting began Wednesday, it said.

A Russian television station reported Saturday that about 70 government troops had been killed and 200 wounded in four days of fighting — lower than some previous estimates. It also said earlier that 150 to 300 Chechens were dead.

President Boris N. Yeltsin, who launched the war in December 1994 in an attempt to crush separatist defiance and reassert Moscow's control over the breakaway republic, has promised to unveil a new peace plan soon. But the latest clashes have all but made a mockery of any talk of a settlement.

There was no late news on the whereabouts of 84 Russian construction workers seized by the fighters at the beginning of their attack on Grozny, Russian television said.

The rebels also abducted 29 people at beating plants during the assault, and there was no word Sunday if they were still being held.



HIJACKING OVER — A German police inspector displaying the toy gun used by a Turk to hijack a Turkish Cypriot airliner Saturday. The episode ended peacefully in Munich and the hijacker was arrested.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Odd Shoe Exchange Fits the Hard-to-Fit

People with one amputated foot need not pay for a new pair of shoes, or those with feet of markedly different sizes pay for two pairs to get the correct fit for both feet.

Since 1943, tens of thousands of people with uneven feet, or only one foot, have looked to the nonprofit National Odd Shoe Exchange in Phoenix, Arizona. The exchange's cramped offices overflow with one million shoes donated by manufacturers. The organization counts 17,000 members in the United States and Canada, most of whom have mismatched shoe sizes because of disease, injury or birth defects.

Members shop for free shoes at the organization's headquarters or order by mail, paying only the shipping costs.

Many of the shoes are manufacturers' overstocks. Some have slight defects, but most are in perfect condition. The shoe exchange also provides names and phone numbers of a member's "mismatch" — an individual who has exactly the opposite shoe size problem.

The mismatches share shoe purchases.

Short Takes

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved eye implants for AIDS patients of a drug that fights cytomegalovirus, or CMV, a viral infection that affects one of every five people with AIDS. The virus, common in the general population, becomes dangerous only when the body's immune system is weakened. Ever larger doses of anti-viral drugs can damage the kidneys and lower white cell counts. But a capsule sewn to the inside wall of the eye behind the lens releases the drug, ganciclovir, directly onto the retina in small doses over a period of five to eight months so the rest of the body is not affected.

The new International Museum of Cartoon Art was dedicated in Boca Raton, Florida, last week.

The \$15 million project enshrines some of the world's best-known cartoon characters and artists, spanning more than 200 years. Branchchild of Mort Walker, creator of the Beetle Bailey comic strip, the museum is intended to elevate the status of cartooning. "You know, Picasso is really a cartoonist," Mr. Walker said. "His stuff is funny. He exaggerates the human form."

A convicted defendant whose counsel was asleep to the point of being "unconscious" for long stretches in court deserves a new trial, a federal appeals court ruled. However, lest defendants be tempted to let sleeping lawyers lie, the 2d U.S. Court of Appeals stopped short of saying a snoring attorney always warrants a new trial. The court said it did not want to set too broad a precedent because lawyers might start feigning sleep to create grounds for appeal.

And speaking of lawyers, if F. Lee Bailey is looking for sympathetic friends to help free him from jail, he could bypass a former client, the publishing heiress Patricia Hearst. "I enjoyed watching him taken off handcuffed and manacled," Miss Hearst, 42, was quoted as saying by The New York Post. "It all seemed so properly humiliating." Mr. Bailey, 62, represented Miss Hearst in 1976 when she faced bank robbery charges after her abduction by a radical group. She lost and went to prison. She says she believes Mr. Bailey was more interested in a book deal than winning her case. He was imprisoned in Florida last Thursday on a six-month contempt sentence for failing to produce \$25 million in stock from a drug dealing client.

International Herald Tribune

Missing 26 Years, Sarge Returns

By Bradley Graham
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A U.S. Army sergeant missing for 26 years after serving in Vietnam and presumed dead has filed for Social Security benefits, to the shock of his relatives in Hawaii and the amazement of the army.

What happened to Master Sergeant Mateo Sabog, whose name appears on the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial here, remained a mystery as army doctors began putting the 73-year-old veteran through tests at Fort Gordon, Georgia.

Army officials declined to disclose much of what Mr. Sabog has said about his life since the army lost track of him in Saigon in February 1970.

But they acknowledged being dumbfounded by ows

that he had walked into a Social Security office in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and asked to receive benefits.

"We're welcoming him back as a long lost soldier who has returned," said Lieutenant Colonel Bill Harkey, an army spokesman.

One senior officer discounted the possibility that the sergeant, whose active duty status is being restored, would be charged with desertion or anything else.

The last sighting the army says it had showed him preparing to leave Saigon after serving with the 507th Transportation Group. He was supposed to report to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. But Fort Bragg had never been told, "so when he didn't show up in March, he wasn't missed," Colonel Harkey said.

At some point on the trip, army officials say, Mr. Sabog appears to have simply walked away from the military and ended up living in California with a woman.

"What precipitated him coming out of the woodwork was that the woman recently went into a nursing home or passed away. So he lost his support," an official said.

When Mr. Sabog went to Chattanooga from his small house in Rossville, Georgia, he had no identification papers. But he produced the name of a brother in Hawaii who, who called by a Social Security official, was startled to say the least.

The brother, Kenneth — one of four siblings in Hawaii, according to officials — had also lost track of Mateo. It was a letter Kenneth

wrote to the army in 1973, asking for information, that first made the army aware he was missing.

Initially, the army listed him as a deserter, but after Kenneth wrote another letter — this one in 1979 to President Jimmy Carter — the army reviewed the file and concluded he was not a deserter, but probably dead.

"There was no reason to believe that an individual who had 24 years of honorable service, was retirement eligible and was returning from Vietnam would desert from the military," the army said.

In 1993, at the urging of Mr. Sabog's siblings, his name was added to the Vietnam memorial, although — at the family's direction — with a small cross indicating missing rather than dead.

Swiss Vote 'Yes' To Upgrading a Minor Language

Reuters

ZURICH — Voters decided overwhelmingly Sunday to support a bill designed to preserve Romansh, a 2,000-year-old language spoken in several Alpine valleys.

Officials said 76.1 percent favored giving Romansh equal status with German, French and Italian, which are spoken far more widely; 23.9 percent voted "no."

Romansh has been classified as a "national language" since 1938, but the change to "official language" is intended to force the federal government to use it in dealing with Romansh-speakers.

It is spoken by only about 40,000 people, less than 1 percent of the population.

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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

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Suspensions Borne Out

China keeps doing more in substance the suspicion of nations prize stability and cooperation in international affairs that it holds these values in contempt. Exhibit A is Taiwan, where the Chinese, offended by Taiwan's moves toward independence, have recklessly escalated from political protest to military intimidation. But there is also an array of other issues, including China's default on its international human rights commitments, its crude trade practices, its hawking of missiles and nuclear materials and, most recently, its alarming reported sale to a defiant Iran of industrial chemicals with a covert use of making poison gas.

China has been registering economic growth at a rate that has made many others think it may be prudent to acknowledge its parallel demand for a larger international role. But it gets increasingly difficult even to consider this demand when the Chinese are otherwise showing indifference and sometimes contempt for the agreed rules of conduct among nations. Poison gas for the mullahs — think that one over.

The Taiwan question has a particular urgency: It could spin out of control, militarily as well as politically. Here, the United States is in a new and awkward place. Playing China against the Soviet Union in the Cold War for strategic reasons, it committed the United States in the 1970s and 1980s to support China's peaceful reunification with its offshore, onetime province.

But now in the 1990s, with the Cold War behind, those commitments have become a source of understandable discomfort and discontent. The reason is that while China remains a repressive state with an uncertain attachment to international order, Taiwan under American inspiration has grown into a free-market democracy. Emotionally, morally and philosophically, it becomes harder to say yes to China and easier to say yes to Taiwan.

These developments underlie the crisis brewing in the 100-mile-wide Taiwan Strait. Last year, Taiwan set out to employ its domestic successes to end its status as a diplomatic outcast and to win international acceptance as an independent state. China decided to view this initiative as a deep threat to its sovereignty and national integrity. Its latest response is tests of missiles aimed at waters off two major Taiwan ports.

On this issue, the United States may have its own conversations with Taiwan. But the pressing requirement is to make sure China does not misread the American temper. Americans have not a treaty obligation but still a deep obligation (buttressed by American law) to the welfare of Taiwan — long a ward, now a star protégé. China must be made to understand that its complaints about Taiwan's policy are being drowned out by the noise of its missiles splashing down a few miles off the island's shores.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

A Life Raft for Hong Kong

Prime Minister John Major took a welcome step beyond the decent minimum to a morale-boosting visit to Hong Kong last week. An almost audible sigh of relief greeted his promise of visa-free access to Britain for Hong Kong citizens after the colony is handed over to China in July 1997.

This does not assure permanent abode to Hong Kong emigrants, but if the turnover to Beijing is followed by a repressive crackdown, those fleeing to Britain will have a chance to seek political asylum.

That is a crucial life raft for Hong Kong's 6 million inhabitants, only half of whom hold British citizenship or special overseas passports. Moreover, Mr. Major recognized the special plight of 7,000 non-Chinese residents, mostly from India and Pakistan, who are destined to become stateless persons. All are now promised the right of

permanent abode in Britain should they seek it.

Beijing promised in a 1984 Joint Declaration to respect the law and political freedoms in Hong Kong for 50 years after the takeover. But since the massacre near Tiananmen Square in 1989, the Chinese leadership has put its good faith in doubt. Assuring a secure exit for present citizens of Hong Kong can be a deterrent to repression. The colony's trained work force has transformed it into a money machine. If those productive inhabitants are free to emigrate, their future masters may be more likely to treat them well.

Before departing, Mr. Major pledged that Hong Kong would "never walk alone." That is an honorable sentiment that Britain, the United States and other democratic countries should uphold in the months ahead.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Balking at Bribes

Ever since 1977, when the United States barred U.S. corporations from paying bribes overseas, U.S. executives have complained that enforced honesty was costing them business. European and Asian competitors were beating them out all over the world — and then going home and deducting the bribes from their taxes.

How much of this lost business was real, and how much involved sour grapes, has never been clear. Some studies have shown only marginal losses to U.S. business. Some U.S. firms have found ways around the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, as the 1977 law is called. And many executives agree that the act has also helped them at times, by giving them an excuse not to pay costly bribes that might in any case bring small or no returns.

Still, no one denies that the act can handicap U.S. firms. And with trade now accounting for 30 percent of the U.S. total economy and a sizable number of domestic jobs, any such impediment has to be taken seriously.

The U.S. trade representative, Mickey Kantor, last week identified bribery and corruption in overseas business as significant and unfair barriers to trade. Rather than softening the U.S. law, he said, Washington will now press other nations to deal more honestly.

Fat chance, you may say. And of course corruption will never be entirely uncoupled from international business, any more than the influence of money can be entirely leached out of politics. But in two areas a full-scale press would not be entirely quixotic. The first is to press other developed countries to play more by U.S. rules. The Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, which includes the nations of Western Europe, North America and Japan, is moving toward adoption of a policy barring tax deductibility of overseas bribes. That policy should be encouraged as a bare minimum, with criminalization of bribery to follow.

The second goal is to persuade developing countries to adopt fair rules for government procurement contracts in telecommunications, energy and other dollar-rich sectors. The more open such processes are, the less opportunity is provided for bribery.

Such a campaign would be as much in the interest of the developing countries themselves as it would benefit U.S. firms. Widespread corruption usually enriches a small elite while discouraging foreign investment and impoverishing the economy as a whole. Even many U.S. competitors would welcome a clearer set of rules, if they knew everyone was playing by the same ones.

Clinton administration officials have raised these issues before. This time they should maintain the pressure. Pushing for honest trade is not an unfair trade practice.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Frustration Builds

An axiom of the information society is that the richer the country, the fewer are the opportunities in traditional industries. The result is that employment is often restricted to high-tech enterprises, the burgeoning service sector or playing the money game electronically. The competence of a low-level, repetitive job in the traditional industries is no longer required, with the export of such industries to low-wage countries. Remaining personnel has its limits, and human ingenuity has devised no mechanism for collectively improving a whole segment's IQ to enable such a work force to find suitable employment in rich countries. The ranks of the unemployed, therefore, grow, draining resources and building up frustration.

—S. Nihal Singh, commenting in the *Khaleej Times* (Dubai).

China Will Pull Back From the Brink — Won't It?

By Thomas L. Friedman

BEIJING — "No." It was said without a moment's hesitation or a shred of doubt. The speaker was one of China's top state economists, and the question I had posed to him was this: Can China afford to attack Taiwan?

"No," he said, shaking his head. "It would stop investment in China, stop growth, stop our last chance to catch up with the rest of the world."

Like everyone else I spoke to in the Chinese government, this economist felt China would be fully justified in blasting Taiwan to prevent it from becoming independent. But unlike others, he was also ready to express what every official here must know but will not say aloud — that China cannot attack Taiwan without devastating its own economy.

Don't get me wrong. If Taiwan goes too far in its quest for a more independent profile on the world stage, I have absolutely no doubt that China will use military force — no matter what the economic consequences. No Chinese leader could survive if he let Taiwan become independent. But no Chinese leader can survive without foreign investment and trade either.

That is the leadership's real dilemma. Listen closely and you can hear

the tension. Tang Shubei, China's top negotiator with Taiwan, told me he did not want to argue about the negative economic consequences of attacking Taiwan, "but should Taiwan strive for independence, we will not hesitate to use all means, including military ones, to safeguard the unity of the Motherland — but we still wish to see a peaceful settlement."

The notion that China might be inhibited about military action against Taiwan because it would have a devastating economic impact might seem ludicrous in light of China's history. In 1960, China broke relations with the Soviet Union when Moscow was its only financial supporter in the world. In 1979, China shrugged off the economic consequences and went to war with Vietnam.

But today's China is different. It is no longer the isolated, peasant-based economy of the Mao era. It is now connected to the global economy. And the legitimacy of China's leaders today depends on their ability to maintain economic growth and jobs to accom-

modate the millions of Chinese entering the labor force each year.

China's leaders cannot do that without the \$100 million a day in foreign investment that now pours into China — which accounts for 20 percent of total annual investment here.

A good deal of that \$100 million would dry up the minute China attacked Taiwan. The Taiwan stock exchange would crash, choking off all Taiwanese investment in the mainland, and that surely would lead to capital flight from the Hong Kong stock market as well — killing the two golden geese, Hong Kong and Taiwan, that together have built \$100 billion worth of factories, offices, hotels and energy plants in China.

It is a measure of China's dependence on foreign investment that Wang Shougang, a director of Shanghai's Foreign Investment Commission, was quoted as saying Friday that even if China has to attack Taiwan, "there will be no big change in our attitude toward Taiwan investors." Translation: Even if we invade, we sure hope your investors won't take it personally.

But U.S. officials say Chinese exports to the United States — which

account for 40 percent of China's total exports — would almost certainly be cut back in retaliation. Japan would surely halt its \$1 billion in annual financial aid and Singapore has reportedly warned Beijing that if it attacked Taiwan, Singapore would freeze its massive investment in Suzhou, an industrial city it is erecting outside Shanghai.

Last week, Singapore's former prime minister, Lee Kuan Yew, warned Beijing publicly that if it attacks Taiwan, "then China's hopes of becoming an industrial nation in 25 years will suffer a major setback." Such a setback would lead to massive unemployment in China's cities and explosive social unrest.

I believe China began more missile tests near Taiwan because its leaders desperately want to terrify Taiwan away from any thoughts of independence — without actually going to war. Unfortunately, China's leaders seem to think the only way to avoid such a war is by taking everyone to the brink of it. But surely China's leaders know they can't go over that brink. They must know that. They have to. ... Maybe they don't know it. ... What if they don't know it?

The New York Times.

Putting the Likud in Power Is Not the Cure for Israel's Woes

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld

WASHINGTON — Almost everyone is counting Israel's Labor government out for the failure of its peace strategy. For withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza, the Israelis meant to get, in the first instance, personal security. Instead they got terrorism of a sort to drive the population crazy.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, whose government made the Oslo accords promoting Palestinian self-rule and Israeli redeployment in the West Bank and Gaza, cannot avoid being held accountable for this awful result.

For the fundamental struggle in the post-Cold War Middle East is no longer Arab against Jew. That conflict lingers but is being inexorably reduced. The real struggle pits Muslim against Muslim, secular modernizers against fundamentalist Islam. In regard to the Palestinians and Israel, the difference is profound. Mr. Arafat represents a now-elected Palestinian Authority more or less ready to accept Israel as a state. Hamas speaks for Palestinians who are led by their interpretation of Islam to deny Israel any right to be a state at all.

Likud, when it last governed

in the 1980s, helped build up Hamas as a force to offset the PLO. With reason, it saw the PLO as the principal vehicle of Palestinian nationalism and figured that dealing with the Palestinians to claim statehood — distasteful but inevitable to Labor, anathema to Likud.

Now we can see why Likud stresses an exclusive Israeli approach to the current Israeli political requirement to punish Hamas. It is not simply that the Palestinian Authority still equivocates on Hamas, hesitating, for instance, to rewrite the offensive anti-Israel provisions of the Palestinian National Covenant. For Israel to enlist the Palestinian Authority in its "war" against Hamas is to take on a fresh obligation to the Authority to move it from autonomy to independence.

Labor, meanwhile, not only has been pursuing an Oslo-set course that many Israelis feel will end up producing Palestin-

ian statehood. Pragmatically, Labor people also tend to look for ways in which Israel's own resistance to Hamas terrorism can be leveraged and extended by the resistance of the Palestinian mainstream.

Likud would in effect stop the Oslo train, leaving the Palestinians territorially and politically with what they have now in the West Bank, or less.

Further, the Likud approach to combating Hamas would license Israel to chase terrorists into the actual areas of Palestinian self-rule, not just the Israeli-controlled interstices. These two policy lines would unquestionably undercut Mr. Arafat's policy of negotiating with Israel for Palestinian rights and would make him look like an Israeli stooge.

This in turn explains the otherwise strange decision of Hamas to follow a policy that holds out such a large electoral payoff to its supposed arch foe, Likud. Hamas is the underdog in the Palestinian street. At the polls in January it figured the PLO would mop up (it did) and, to

spare itself embarrassment, decided officially not to compete. Now Hamas is evidently counting on a self-blinding Likud to do the task Hamas could not do by itself — the holy work of destroying a centrist, secular, potentially democratic Palestine.

There is a strong case for throwing Labor out. It had its chance; it failed. Likud's own shortcomings are grave. Its policies point to a familiar political dead end. Still, it may prevail in May if Labor cannot show that it has learned something.

Labor must demand a degree of Palestinian seriousness that Mr. Arafat will gag on but which he must deliver — no more speaking out of two sides of his mouth, prompt amendment of the covenant, a true and sustained crackdown on Hamas terrorists, a refusal to be distracted by political winks from Hamas's "wings."

Only an unconditional repudiation of terrorism by Hamas will do. Otherwise, it looks like farewell Mr. Peres and farewell Mr. Arafat as well.

The Washington Post.

Under Cover of Night, the Christian Right Rallies Behind Dole

By Frank Rich

NEW YORK — Now that Pat Buchanan has been reduced to waving a pitchfork from the sidelines, both the Republican and the Republican Party have been saved from his take-no-prisoners prosecution of the culture wars, right?

Don't breathe easy just yet. Think back a mere two weeks ago. Bob Dole, defeated in New Hampshire, looked like toast. His survival depended on his ability to whip Mr. Buchanan in the South Carolina primary, which may have the outcome of the Christian Coalition voter pool. If Mr. Dole could pull that off, wrote the conservative columnist Paul Gigot, the revived candidate would head the Christian Coalition

Mr. Dole did win South Carolina, of course, with a strong boost from the religious right, and that victory will likely prove tantamount to winning the presidential nomination. Now it is, indeed, payback time.

Instead of fixating on the fading Buchanan showshow, shouldn't we start looking at the front-runner's connections to the same ideological forces that made Pitchfork Pat so noxious?

More specifically, it's time to ask two key questions. Why did Mr. Dole and his boss, Pat Robertson, lend their tacit, behind-the-scenes support to Mr. Dole, a supposed moderate in the race, rather than to Mr.

Buchanan, a candidate unmistakably in line with their views? And, more important, what will Mr. Dole and Mr. Robertson expect to exchange from a Presidential Dole?

The answer to the first question can be found in Mr. Dole's Machiavellian single-mindedness about political tactics. As far back as 1992 he articulated his plan, likening the Christian Coalition's guerrilla strategy to that of the Vietcong: "It's better to move quietly, with stealth, under cover of night."

If you're going to move under cover of night to grab power, ruthless pragmatism dictates that you go with Bob Dole, an unthreatening and

ideologically vague elder statesman who might actually give you entrée into the White House, rather than with Pat Buchanan, a firebrand whose every speech reveals your hand by calling attention to the radicalism of your agenda.

But don't be fooled: Mr. Dole and Mr. Robertson's agenda, which they will now seek to advance through Mr. Dole, is the same as Mr. Buchanan's.

At last fall's Christian Coalition "Road to Victory" convention, Mr. Buchanan was the keynote speaker. Just look at any fund-raising letter with Mr. Robertson's and Mr. Dole's names on it, and you'll find Mr. Buchanan's positions on abortion, school prayer, uppy women and homosexuals.

Even his conspiracy theory of a "new world order" involving the United Nations, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Trilateral Commission and powerful bankers who just happen to have Jewish names is literally lifted from Mr. Robertson's 1991 best-seller, "The New World Order."

Obviously Mr. Dole does not subscribe to all of these views, but his malleability in Mr. Robertson's hands has been shocking. The senator's current voting record receives a 100 percent score from the Christian Coalition (as opposed, say, to 63 percent for Alfonse D'Amato and 0 percent for Pat Moynihan).

Will Mr. Dole "balance" his ticket with a Christian Coalition favorite like Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas (voting score: 100 percent) rather than plausible moderates opposed by Mr. Dole like Colin Powell, Christie Whitman, William Weld or Pete Wilson? It's now or never for such questions to be brought from the shadows of stealthy back rooms into the light.

The New York Times.

A Move to Stop Burundi's Spiral

By Cyrus R. Vance and David A. Hamburg

WASHINGTON — A world grown accustomed to human disaster in the face of diplomatic failure has more to hope for in the coming days.

Next Saturday, a meeting of African leaders in Tunis, brokered by former President Jimmy Carter, will test the proposition that breaking the cycle of mass violence in Central Africa may at last be possible.

They need the international community's help. Burundi is pivotal. The right mix of political pressures can sustain the balance of power in a country on the brink of repeating the slaughter that tore apart Rwanda. Maintaining that balance could spare thousands of lives. It would also reduce the risk of the United Nations being forced into another crisis without the mandate, materials and money needed to be effective.

Burundi's government, a coalition of moderate Tutsi and Hutu leaders, is fragile. Tutsi extremists have recently attempted to close down the capital, Bujumbura, with labor strikes and blockades. Attacks by Hutu guerrillas in the countryside raise fears of genocide among the Tutsi minority.

But there is some reason for hope. Moderate Tutsi and Hutu leaders are committed to a national debate, open to all political factions. The goal is to settle the terms of power-sharing and guarantees for

minority rights before any further elections.

To reinforce this process we must be clear not only about the differences between Burundi and Rwanda but also about who must take primary responsibility for a peace plan.

Rwanda and Burundi are both poor, isolated countries. Their colonizers' divide-and-rule policies left seemingly insoluble conflict between the agrarian Hutu, who make up about 85 percent of each country, and the Tutsi, who predominate in business, government and the military.

The Belgians left the Tutsi elite in control of Burundi but gave way to the Hutu majority in Rwanda. Since then, demagogues in both countries have exploited ethnic fear and pride.

This spiral of hate climaxed in 1994, when Hutu in Rwanda shot or hacked to death at least 500,000 people, primarily Tutsi. When Tutsi exiles from Uganda overthrew the Hutu government, more than 2 million Hutu fled to nearby countries, where 1.7 million remain.

In Burundi, the core question is whether the country's citizens can avoid Rwanda's tragedy by devising a power-sharing formula that offers enough security for the Tutsi to open the way for majority democratic rule.

Outsiders can help in sev-

eral ways. First, there must be diplomatic efforts to persuade extremists in both ethnic groups of the futility and dreadful consequences of violence. Killings in Bujumbura have risen to more than 100 a week, and anarchy threatens.

The United States and European governments should impose an arms embargo, block international financial transactions by Burundi's extremist leaders and threaten to halt trade other than humanitarian relief.

Second, African leaders should be given help in securing a power-sharing agreement in Bujumbura and the return of refugees to both Burundi and Rwanda. In November, Mr. Carter arranged a meeting of the presidents of Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zaire. It is these talks that resume this week.

Third, donor governments and the World Bank should draw up a "road map" linking political progress in Burundi and the other countries of Central Africa to the restoration of development assistance.

For the moment, however, everything depends on reaching an agreement to contain the cancer of ethnic conflict.

What is learned from this experience can help prevent mass violence elsewhere.

The authors, co-chairmen of the Carnegie Commission, contributed this comment to *The New York Times*.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1896: Triple Alliance

BERLIN — The reception of Count Goluchowski here was not of an official character. He was met at the station by the Austrian Ambassador and the staff of this Embassy. A report is in circulation that Germany will propose to make a change in the terms of her alliance with Austria. The *casseo federis* for the latter country will be extended to an attack by France on Germany. This new stipulation is designed to compensate for the weakness of Italy.

1921: Wilson Tribute

NEW YORK — Admirers of former President Wilson are planning a nation-wide tribute which will probably take the form of a fund of \$300,000 raised by small contributions, the interest on which will be devoted to rewarding one person who during the year has done the

greatest service to humanity. The nature of the service on which the award will be made will be defined by Mr. Wilson, who has been informed of the project and expressed himself as deeply appreciative of the honor.

1946: End of Mandate

PARIS — French and British negotiations for the evacuation of their respective troops from Syria and Lebanon, to which General Charles de Gaulle promised independence in 1941, came to a formal conclusion yesterday with the announcement by the French Foreign Office that the last of the Allied liberation forces would quit Lebanon by April 1, 1947. Military "experts" of the two Allied powers have been putting finishing touches on the removal of their forces from the former League of Nations mandate of France wrested from Vichy during the early stages of the war.

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INTERNATIONAL

EU Will Press Iran to Renounce Terrorism

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

PALERMO, Italy — European Union foreign ministers agreed Sunday to press Iran to condemn terrorism, but they failed to concur on possible action if Tehran demurs.

The decision was made in connection with the anti-terrorism summit meeting in Egypt on Wednesday, which EU foreign ministers hope will shore up the Middle East peace process and bolster Prime Minister Shimon Peres of Israel and the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

"We call on Iran to condemn, once and for all, all acts of terrorism, whoever by and for whatever end, and to respect its commitment to refrain from any action which could undermine the peace process or legitimize terrorism," an EU statement said.

Although U.S. officials indicated that such a European effort was welcome, the initiative falls well short of American attempts to isolate Iran economically and politically. The United States has accused Iran of complicity

in a recent series of suicide bombings in Israel.

The EU foreign ministers, meeting here, endorsed Israel's crackdown on Islamic terrorists in the wake of the bombings, but urged the Israeli government to loosen the stranglehold imposed on the West Bank and Gaza Strip to allow in EU humanitarian and reconstruction aid.

Susanna Agnelli, the Italian foreign minister, who presided at the meeting, said Europe wanted to help Mr. Arafat, who, she said, "obviously wants to fight terrorism."

Europe will send senior officials from Italy, Spain and Ireland — the so-called troika of current, past and future EU presidents — to Iran, Libya and Syria after the Egyptian summit meeting to demand support for the Middle East peace process and an end to aid for terrorists.

Klaus Kinkel, the German foreign minister, said Iran's response would be a test for Europe's "critical dialogue" with Tehran. But he made it clear that Germany was not ready to consider breaking off the dialogue

even if Iran rebuffed the pressure. Such a break would come "when we have proof that Tehran is behind" terrorist attacks, Mr. Kinkel said, adding that Mr. Peres had offered no such proof.

Hervé de Charette, the French foreign minister, made it clear that Europe still saw value in maintaining political contacts with harsh regimes, a fact that also has put the Union at odds with Washington over policy toward Cuba.

"The European Union doesn't change its policies the way one changes a shirt," he said.

Malcolm Rifkind, the British foreign secretary, was the most pessimistic about the prospect for success. He said he was "very doubtful" that Europe's dialogue would ever produce moderation in Iran, but he would not say whether Britain would push to break off the dialogue if Iran did not respond this time. And he made it clear that Britain, which like Germany and France sees good trade prospects with oil-rich Iran, would not back any economic sanctions.

"We've never taken the view that a policy of economic isolation of Iran is likely to be beneficial," he said.

EU officials stressed that they did not view Syria in the same light as Iran and Libya, but wanted Damascus to "do something more" to get the peace process moving again, one official said.

Although Italian officials believed the Union should be represented primarily by the Italian-led troika at the Egyptian summit meeting, European views will be delivered in the voice of its three leading powers — Prime Minister John Major of Britain, President Jacques Chirac of France and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany.

Separately, the ministers failed to overcome British and French objections to a seat for the European Parliament in an intergovernmental conference on EU reform, which will open in Turin on March 29.

The Parliament's presence is strongly backed by Germany, which believes it would help win public support for any treaty changes.

LANGUAGE

The Hunting of the Grouse

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — The season of elections in Russia, Israel, the United States, and probably Britain brings with it the language of complaint. As the punster at the O'Meara Campaign Equipment Co. in Dublin wrote in an advertisement for a sale at this time of year: "Now Is the Winter of Our Discount Tent."

The vague verb for complaining on both sides of the Atlantic these days is *to grouse*. Stephanie Strom of The New York Times wrote from London about a charge made by John Preston, deputy leader of the Labor Party, that a preview copy of a report critical of a government cover-up was made available to the Conservative Party chairman: "People will want to know whether Mr. [Brian] Mawhinney has been given prior access to the Scott report so he can run a political damage-limitation exercise from Tory central office," Mr. Preston grouched.

We are not speaking here of the noun denoting a game bird, like the sage hen, or of the Australian slang adjective for "excellent," as in the 1947 use of "a real grouse" to describe a bushy-haired black sheep. The verb *to grouse*, often labeled "informal" in dictionaries, was first cited as British army slang by Rudyard Kipling in his 1899 "From Sea to Sea" in a passage written 12 years earlier: "That's the only thing as 'ill make the Blue Lights stop grousin' and stiffin'." Kipling went on to define his character's terms: "Grousin' is sulking, and stiffin' is using unparliamentary language."

Grouse is akin to *grouch*, which is derived from *grudge*, rooted in the Old French *groucier*, "to envy, resent." Many words beginning with *gr* carry that growling connotation, including *groan*, *grunt*, *grinace*, *gruff* and *grumble*.

If you want to disparage the plaintiff mildly, try *grumble*; if you want to ridicule that person, try the plaintive *whine*. To subtly support the complaint, use the brave *protest*. For a characterization of the complaint as excessively minor, there's *nip-pick*; to add an element of noisiness, consider *bellyache* or *gripe*, and to derogue plainly, the slang verb *blotch*. In newspaper reporting, which strives for objectivity sometimes at the cost of color, a simple complaint will suffice.

"I have just come back from Boston," writes Alistair Cooke of the BBC, "where — at the Ritz-Carlton — I called room service and ordered 'soft scrambled eggs.' The nice kitchen girl 'repeated,' with meticulous articulation, 'softly scrambled eggs.'"

The educated ear of Cooke caught the insertion of the adverbial suffix *-ly*. He goes on: "And — not an hour ago — one of the news anchors at CNN said, 'The news came in fast and furious-ly.' I expect any minute to hear the ultimate gaffe of this ilk — perhaps by an editor telling her staff to 'stand up straight-ly.'"

Are people adding an unnecessary *-ly* to modifiers? The culinary worker (formerly kitchen girl) gently correcting her customer was using *softly*, the adverb, to modify the verb *scramble*, her attention directed to the action of cooking the eggs, while Cooke was using the adjective *soft* to modify the noun phrase "scrambled eggs," firmly fixing his eye and mouth on how the eggs would turn out. Both uses are considered correct, illustrating the differing emphases available by making a choice between adjective and adverb. In the same way, when Dylan Thomas wrote: "Do not go gentle into that good night," he chose the adjective *gentle* to focus attention on the condition of the unstated "you," rather than the adverb *gently* to modify the verb *go*.

So who cares about these delicious subtleties? I do, because my worry has been the opposite of Alistair's: that we are mindlessly clipping the *-ly* off too many adverbs. Also, it's time to make a fast pass at grasping the power of syntax.

I sleep *oaked*. That only seems like, but is not, another illustration of rampant *-ly* clipping. (In reality, I sleep in a T-shirt emblazoned with "Because I'm the Maven, That's Why.") I use *naked* here as an adjective to modify the unclotted state of the subject (who is me), and *oak* as an adverb to modify the action of the verb "to sleep," as I go gentle, etc.

But consider the loss of these *-ly*s: *Drive Slow*, *adjoins* a sign in my neighborhood. *Get Rich Quick*, offers the mutual-fund pitchman. *Party hearty*, advises the enthusiastic hedonist. *He was hurt bad*, boasts the vituperator. "It works perfect," says the mechanic, over the cacophonous ping, wheezing, and rattling of the engine. Do all these *-ly* clips signify a trend? Concerned sign painters wonder: Is *Drive Slow* correct?

The University of Chicago superlinguist James D. McCawley believes the distinction between adjective and adverb remains alive and well; the professor tells me that much depends on where the word is placed in the sentence. "In syntactic positions where adjectives otherwise don't occur," he says, quickly supplying the needed *frinstance*, "(for example, as modifiers preceding a verb or adjective), adverbs don't get replaced by adjectives: 'He quickly recovered his composure' (not 'quick'). 'He was badly hurt' (not 'bad'). 'Recently, it's been pretty cold' (not 'recent')." If it's up front, it bangs on to its adverbial *-ly*.

Now here comes the power of syntax, that instinctive organization of words that is the wooder of language: "English syntax provides frames that have to be filled by an adverb," says this deeply structured respondent, "and to my knowledge, no native speaker of English ever puts adjectives in those frames. You thus have no grounds for worrying that adverbs might disappear from English, at least not in the next couple of centuries."

Until then, drive slowly, do justly, and walk bumbly with thy God.

New York Times Service

Bombs Bring Peres Political Problems

Last Chance for Victory in Peril

By Serge Schmemmann
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — As the human bombs exploded one after another over the last two weeks, Shimon Peres could have been excused for wondering if destiny had not singled him out for cruel mockery.

Until the bombs began, Mr. Peres seemed on the verge of victory and vindication.

Though responsible for building Israel's military might and for masterminding the Palestinian peace in a political career of 50 years, he could never shake his image as an indecisive dreamer and a shifty politician. Though he shared the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize and has served in every senior office — defense minister, foreign minister, prime minister — he has never gained public affection, nor a clear victory in an election.

At a time when he had all but abandoned political ambition, the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in November suddenly thrust on him the mandate and the popularity to bring home the peace and recognition that Israel has struggled for since its creation.

Then came the explosions, two on Feb. 25, another a week later, then one more last Monday — 62 shattered bodies shown over and over on television, mobs howling "Peres next!" and an anguished nation clamoring for action and revenge.

Public faith in the peace policy fell like a stone. Yasser Arafat, so recently a partner in peace, was now regarded by many Israelis as a two-faced phony who had failed to deliver his end of the deal.

Suddenly, Mr. Peres is struggling for political survival, and doing all the things he once so ardently opposed — ordering a ruthless siege of Palestinian areas, deportations, the separation of Arabs and Jews, all-out war against Islamic fundamentalism.

Once again, fate seems to be ripping victory from his grasp, as it did in 1981, when Israeli television announced that Mr. Peres had won the election and he was presented to his cheering followers as the next prime minister. An hour later the television network announced that it had made a computing mistake.

The difference now is that the stakes are far higher. This may be the last chance for the 72-year-old Mr. Peres, and if he fails, and the peace effort

crumbles, history may remember him as the intellectual who could never quite bring off his ideas. If he leads Israel through the crisis and salvages the peace, he stands to enter history as Israel's greatest captain, a pragmatic visionary who prevailed in the end.

On the face of it, Mr. Peres seems to be the perfect choice to guide Israel through the crisis. No leader since Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, could match his experience or his record.

At 24, he was chief recruiter of the Hagannah, the fledgling army. After Israel was founded, he was charged by his mentor, Ben-Gurion, with building the defense industry. He founded Israel Aircraft Industries and negotiated arms deals with France and Germany at a time when Israel was under an arms embargo. He commissioned the Dimona nuclear reactor.

A member of Parliament from 1959, he was defense minister during the daring rescue of hijacked Israeli hostages at Entebbe, Uganda, in 1976. After Likud was unable to form a coalition in 1984, he assembled a Labor government, and so became the prime minister who ended the disastrous Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and who slashed inflation from 600 percent to less than 20 percent through a brutal price stabilization plan.

And in 1993, as foreign minister, he initiated the secret contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization that resulted in the dramatic handshake between Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin at the White House.

Now, in press conferences and interviews in the wake of the bombings, he acts determined and tough, staring straight into the cameras as he outlines a harsh list of punitive measures against the Palestinians. At the same time, he continues to counsel restraint.

To an interviewer who asked why he had not taken the tough actions before, he replied: "When the situation got more serious, we got more serious. That's the way war works, in any country. We don't make an emergency where there is no emergency."

And when asked whether he was prepared to deport Islamic militants, he replied: "Yes, I'm for it, but not women, children or innocents. Only if I have proof, clear proof that it will help security. Then I won't hesitate."

Yet as he appeared on tele-



Two backers of the Peace Now movement stacking placards after a Jerusalem rally.

vision after the explosions in his double-breasted suit — constitutionally incapable of publicly displaying the grief and anger that the public wanted to see, talking of staying with the peace effort when the public clamored for blood and action — he was also the politician Israelis had never learned to trust or love.

They had always preferred Mr. Rabin, the straight-talking soldier who would turn red with rage and put his cigarettes out in coffee cups. Mr. Peres is a Central European intellectual in a nation whose heroes are native-born soldiers; he is an elegant and restrained statesman in a rowdy land that disdains formality, a prophet of peace in a country that, in the words of Mr. Peres's chief peace negotiator, Uri Savir, was "either burdened by the past or hypnotized by the present, and viewed the future fatalistically."

His reputation as a schemer goes back to his early missions for Ben-Gurion, when he negotiated secretly with France and bought tanks from West Germany at a time when memories of Auschwitz were still raw. These and other actions, which proved critical to Israel's survival, made him many enemies.

"He gave Israel its two major deterrents," Mr. Savir said. "He bought the nuclear reactor when there were no tomatoes yet, and he started the aviation project when we couldn't even export bicycles."

The reputation for shif-

ness stuck. In his memoir, Mr. Rabin called Mr. Peres the "unruly schemer," a label gleefully seized on by the opposition.

A politician in the old European mold, rather than the American style represented by his Likud challenger, Benjamin Netanyahu, Mr. Peres greatly admired the late President François Mitterrand of France, and his natural setting was late-evening debates with French intellectuals and European Socialists.

These qualities also prevent him from forming the same bond with Americans that Mr. Rabin had, though in his autobiography he called the year he spent studying in the United States in the 1950s one of his most formative.

Mr. Peres acknowledges that he spent much of his political career under fire. "You know," he said, "I learned my own way, from history, that liberal forces, peaceful forces, democratic forces, are never weaker than the other forces. But they lose their hearts. I was taught at an early age, don't lose your heart."

"If you want to achieve something great, you must be as great as your quarrel," he said, quoting de Gaulle.

The May 29 election will show whether the forces behind Mr. Peres have lost heart, and whether the public perceives him to be as great as his quarrel. Polls have shown him level with Mr. Netanyahu, and analysts expect him to regain ground if his measures are perceived as adequate — and if there are no more attacks.

58th Victim Dies in Israel

JERUSALEM — A Romanian laborer died Saturday of the wounds he sustained in a March 3 bus bombing in Jerusalem, raising the death toll in a two-week series of Hamas-claimed suicide bombings to 58 victims. The four attackers also died in the four bombings, which began Feb. 25.

The latest victim was Imer Ambroz, 51. He was the 19th person to die as a result of the March 3 bombing.

DEATH NOTICE

Gilies Peter Springer
Commercial anaché SPA Press
Beloved son of Phyllis Springer
and Göksin Sipahioğlu; nephew
of Byron and Marion Springer;
passed away suddenly
on March 6th, 1996
at the age of 35.
Funeral services will be held
Tues. March 12, 3 p.m. at the
Eglise Réformée de Penzance,
104-106, rue de Grenelle, Paris
6c. Burial to follow at
Montparnasse Cemetery.

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CAPITAL MARKETS ON MONDAY

Most Active International Bonds

The 250 most active international bonds traded through the Euroclear system for the week ending March 8. Prices supplied by Telekurs.											
Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield	Rnk	Name	Cpn	Maturity	Price	Yield
Australian Dollar											
110	Ontario	5	11/09/99	101.973	5.700	227	France OAT	8	04/25/03	108.1250	7.4000
157	Pepisco	zero	03/01/97	97.3200	6.700	French Franc					
237	Australia Govt	7 1/2	07/15/05	92.4050	8.1200	84	04/25/03	112.6300	7.5000		
British Pound											
182	Penderford M&I	6.2675/00/03/07		99.9900	6.2700	173	France OAT	5 1/2	02/28/05	110.8600	7.6700
187	Penderford M&I	6.3474/00/03/07		99.4600	6.3100	178	France BTAN	7	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
225	Penderford M&I	6.3075/00/03/07		99.9500	6.3000	186	France OAT	8 1/2	11/25/03	112.6400	7.5400
Danish Krone											
12	Denmark	8	01/15/06	103.4000	7.7300	203	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
21	Denmark	9	11/15/00	103.4000	8.1100	204	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
24	Denmark	7	01/15/00	103.4000	7.9500	205	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
28	Denmark	8	11/15/01	103.4000	7.9500	206	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
34	Denmark	7	11/15/01	103.4000	7.9500	207	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
47	Denmark	6	12/10/99	101.0300	5.9400	208	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
53	Denmark	7	08/15/97	103.1200	6.7900	209	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
73	Denmark	8	11/10/04	103.4000	8.1100	210	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
88	Denmark	7	02/15/99	103.8800	8.7400	211	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
101	Denmark	9	11/15/99	103.8800	8.7400	212	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
149	Denmark	6 1/2	02/10/97	101.6000	6.1800	213	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
211	Denmark T-bills	zero	07/01/96	96.6885	4.2000	214	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
217	Denmark T-bills	zero	10/01/96	97.6639	4.2000	215	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
Deutsche Mark											
1	Germany	6	01/05/06	97.4275	6.1600	216	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
2	Germany	6 1/2	10/14/05	101.8400	8.1100	217	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
3	Germany	3	02/28/00	102.3000	5.4000	218	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
4	Germany	5 1/2	08/22/00	102.3000	5.4000	219	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
5	Germany	7 1/2	01/21/02	101.3050	7.1900	220	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
6	Germany	5 1/2	02/28/00	102.3000	5.4000	221	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
7	Germany	5 1/2	02/15/00	103.3250	5.6900	222	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
8	Germany	6	02/14/06	97.4275	6.1600	223	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
9	Germany	6 1/2	02/15/00	103.3250	5.6900	224	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
14	Germany	5 1/2	08/20/01	115.4500	8.2900	225	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
15	Treuhand	7	11/25/99	107.6200	6.5100	226	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
16	Germany	8	07/22/02	111.1400	7.1800	227	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
17	Germany	5 1/2	11/21/00	101.1300	5.9100	228	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
18	Germany	7	01/15/00	107.4000	6.5200	229	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
19	Treuhand	7 1/2	09/20/01	107.5400	6.7900	230	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
20	Germany	5 1/2	05/25/98	101.9000	6.0800	231	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
21	Treuhand	8 1/2	09/20/01	112.6700	7.2300	232	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
22	Treuhand	7 1/2	12/02/02	107.9125	6.8300	233	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
23	Germany	7 1/2	01/20/03	103.3400	6.3000	234	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
24	Treuhand	7 1/2	01/04/04	99.0729	7.0200	235	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
25	Treuhand	6 1/2	08/11/03	104.4550	6.8600	236	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
26	Germany	6 1/2	09/21/99	103.3500	5.2200	237	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
27	Treuhand	6 1/2	05/13/04	103.0100	6.5500	238	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
28	Germany	7 1/2	11/11/04	107.6225	6.7900	239	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
29	Germany	8	02/05/00	104.7300	7.4500	240	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
30	Treuhand	6 1/2	07/05/03	102.9833	6.4300	241	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
31	Germany	8 1/2	12/20/00	114.7567	7.7300	242	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
32	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/98	104.6400	6.2100	243	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
33	Germany	6 1/2	09/21/99	103.3500	5.2200	244	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
34	Treuhand	6 1/2	01/11/01	102.0580	6.3000	245	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
35	Germany	7 1/2	10/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	246	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
36	Treuhand	7 1/2	10/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	247	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
37	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	248	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
38	Treuhand	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	249	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
39	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	250	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
40	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	251	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
41	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	252	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
42	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	253	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
43	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	254	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
44	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	255	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
45	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	256	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
46	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	257	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
47	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	258	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
48	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	259	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
49	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	260	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
50	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	261	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
51	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	262	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
52	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	263	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
53	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	264	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
54	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	265	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
55	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	266	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
56	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	267	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
57	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	268	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
58	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	269	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
59	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	270	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
60	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	271	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
61	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	272	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
62	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	273	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
63	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	274	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
64	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	275	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
65	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	276	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
66	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	277	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
67	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	278	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
68	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	279	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
69	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	280	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
70	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	281	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
71	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	282	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
72	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	283	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
73	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	284	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
74	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	285	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
75	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	286	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
76	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	287	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
77	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	288	France OAT	7 1/2	10/12/00	105.5700	6.6300
78	Germany	6 1/2	01/20/97	103.4000	8.1100	289	France OAT	7 1/2			

CYBERSCAPE

Beware of False Pages Lying In Wait on Web

By Scott Bowles
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — If you travel the Internet and visit what appears to be the White House's World Wide Web site, do not be surprised to find a plug for a book by Jennifer Flowers, the Arkansas woman who has made a career out of her alleged affair with Bill Clinton.

Welcome to the counterfeit White House Web page. The Web page looks like the real one, performs like the real one and, most disturbing to the White House, has nearly the same computer address as the president's official Internet site.

While the spoof on the Oval Office appears to be in good fun, computer experts say it easily illustrates how easily a Web page can be made to look official and could be used for more than parody. Fraud on the Internet, they say, is a nagging concern in the on-line industry.

"You've got to be careful that you've got the right address when you try to visit a Web page," said George Pateman of the Internet Registration Services, a company that officially registers Web sites to the Internet community around the world. "If you mislead a couple keys, you could wind up somewhere completely unintended and not know it."

"Good Morning, Welcome to the White House," opens the counterfeit Web site. It is a clone of the official page, which features a photo of the White House and eight icons offering categories of information about the government and the administration. Features on the real White House page include presidential speeches, statistics and brief political biographies. The topics on the counterfeit page are not quite as executive. One icon displays the McDonald's logo with the introduction, "What's Cooking? The president dines at the Washington area's premiere culinary establishment." Click on the icon, and you are zapped to an authentic McDonald's Corp. Web page — from Finland, in Finnish.

White House aides worry that Internet users will confuse the phony page with the authentic Web site, whose address is <http://www.whitehouse.gov>. The counterfeit page's address is only slightly different: <http://www.whitehouse.net>.

"Our only problem with it is that it looks very much like our page, and the address is so similar," a White House official said. "We don't want the public to think that we are behind

Someone might mimic legitimate sites to swindle Internet users.

GM Strikes Widening In Impact

More Plants Shut, Talks to Resume

Bloomberg Business News

DETROIT — General Motors Corp. and union leaders are due to resume talks Monday after two more assembly plants were closed because of a shortage of brake parts caused by a strike at two of the company's factories in Ohio.

The plants, which were shut Friday night, are a car-assembly facility in Hamtramck, Michigan, employing about 3,100 workers, and a truck plant in Wentzville, Missouri, with 1,500 workers, GM said.

The Hamtramck plant makes the Cadillac Seville, Eldorado and Deville models, and the Wentzville plant makes Chevrolet Express and GMC Savana vans.

In addition, 850 workers were laid off in the closing of an engine plant in Lansing, Michigan, and 225 in the closing of a seat plant in Auburn Hills, Michigan, GM said.

The plant closings raised the number of workers laid off to about 30,575, GM said.

Eight assembly plants have been closed since Tuesday because of a strike by 3,000 United Auto Workers members at two GM Delphi Chassis Systems plants in Dayton, Ohio. The workers walked out over concerns about job cuts, and health and safety issues.

A GM spokesman said formal talks to end the strike resumed Sunday and would resume Monday, although informal discussions continued through the weekend.

The other assembly plants affected are in Lansing and Orion Township, Michigan; Lordstown, Ohio; Shreveport, Louisiana; Wilmington, Delaware; and Oshawa, Ontario.

Croatia Comes Up For Air After War

Economic Rebirth Under Way

By Justin Keay
Special to the Herald Tribune

LONDON — After \$27 billion worth of war damage over the past four years, Croatia is stepping up its campaign to attract international capital to rebuild its economy.

The recapture of the Krajina region by Croatian forces last summer and the return of assets held by Belgrade could spark growth of 7 percent to 8 percent this year, Deputy Prime Minister Jure Radic said.

"Many sectors have already returned to the level of 1991 and others will follow," said Mr. Radic, who is also the minister for development and reconstruction.

Conceding that Croatia faced what he called "an image problem," thanks to its nationalist government and to perceptions that Zagreb remains on war footing, Mr. Radic insisted last week that the tide was turning.

"There should be no doubt that Croatia has huge potential for Western companies, and many are waking up to it," he said, pointing to the reconstruction already under way. Mr. Radic added that the country was also the natural springboard for companies seeking to join in the reconstruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Given the extent of its involvement in Balkan fighting and that some 5 percent of its territory — resource-rich eastern Slavonia — remains occupied by rebel ethnic Serbs, Croatia's economy is in better shape than one might expect.

After an economic stabilization package launched in the autumn of 1994, the kuna is holding steady against the Deutsche mark and the annual inflation rate fell

from 100 percent in 1994 to less than 4 percent in 1995.

Privatization is moving forward, if slowly, as is reconstruction of parts of the economy most directly damaged by the war. Officials concede that neither will be completed for a long time.

A thirst for imports, encouraged in part by the kuna's strength, contributed to a current-account deficit of nearly \$2 billion last year. But strong foreign reserves have so far allayed concern.

Josue Tanaka, head of the Croatia team at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which has stepped up its activities in the country, is bullish. While noting that Zagreb must restructure its banks and some of its industry, as well as combat the effects of an increasingly overvalued currency, he said that Croatian growth could take off very quickly.

"The economy is basically sound," he said. "Assuming continued political stability, it has excellent potential."

During his London visit, Mr. Radic unveiled his priorities, which include a state-financed program to build some 40,000 houses for people displaced by the war, constructing 2,000 kilometers (1,242 miles) of new highway and 100 kilometers of railway to improve access to and through the country. Other major infrastructure projects are a gas pipeline to southern Croatia, two hydroelectric projects and water-supply systems in war-damaged areas.

Mr. Radic also said Zagreb would seek to revitalize such sectors as car manufacturing and ship-

China Lashes Back At EU's Charges of Textile Dumping

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING — China's textile industry is in danger of losing jobs and businesses because of an unfair European Union investigation into dumping charges, Beijing said Sunday.

The EU investigation, which began Feb. 22, involves about 30 Chinese companies that have been accused of exporting unbleached fabric to Europe at below-market prices to gain market share, according to an article in the China Daily Business Weekly.

China exported \$96 million in unbleached textiles to Europe last year, making the EU a "crucial" market, the newspaper said. Total trade with Europe was \$40.83 billion last year.

An executive with the China National Textile Council, Duan Ming, was quoted in the article as saying that if China loses the dumping case, "many Chinese workers will lose their jobs."

Mr. Duan questioned the accuracy of the EU allegations, saying that the targeted products were "under export quota restrictions by the EU and are products we believe are under relatively strict administration by the government."

Similar dumping charges made in 1994 were dropped for lack of evidence, he said, adding that more than 20 of the enterprises named in the charges have already responded to the latest allegations.

The number of anti-dumping cases involving Chinese companies has soared in recent years, with the EU and the United States accounting for most of them.

In particular, Beijing condemned the EU's practice of substituting figures from a third country to estimate the production costs of Chinese exports to ascertain whether dumping has occurred.

Chinese officials argue that this so-called surrogate approach, designed for countries where government-set prices do not provide a basis for estimating production costs, failed to take account of China's market-oriented reforms or low labor costs.

The new investigation will increase pressure on China's textile industry, where exports are already hampered by EU, U.S. and Canadian quotas that cover some 40 percent of the sector's total overseas sales, the article said.

Gold Production to Rise

China's leading gold producers have vowed to increase production and tap new resources through 2000 as part of the country's next five year economic plan, the official Xinhua news agency reported Sunday.

China produced 105 tons of gold in 1995, with the 10 leading gold centers accounting for 70 percent of the total, Xinhua said.

Hebei province, the third-largest gold base in China, plans to raise its annual output to 18,610 kilograms (20.5 tons) by 2000, 31 percent

more than the figure for 1995, Xinhua reported, quoting the trade publication China Gold.

The proven reserves of gold in Hebei are expected to increase 44 percent, to 173,000 kilograms, in the next five years. The provincial government has urged its gold mines to turn out 15,000 kilograms of gold this year as a start towards the target, Xinhua said.

Shaanxi province is expected to produce 82,500 kilograms of gold in five years.

Light Weight Lands Heinz In Hot Water

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — H.J. Heinz Co., which stakes its pride on selling thick, heavy ketchup that comes out of the bottle slowly, is in trouble for selling underweight products in at least 15 states.

The country's leading ketchup maker is not pouring enough of it into its oversized plastic bottles, the federal government said Friday. Fifteen states have returned to Heinz 168,987 bottles, including 81,000 in Philadelphia, that were below their advertised weight.

The Pittsburgh-based company could face \$15,000 in fines in Philadelphia for underselling consumers by about 2,500 pounds (1,136 kilograms) of ketchup, the city's Licenses and Inspections Commissioner, Robert S. Barnett, said.

Heinz offered Friday to replace any unopened, underweight bottles with fresh ones. It also said it had begun putting more ketchup than normal into the 28-, 40- and 64-ounce plastic bottles.

"The average amount of underweight ketchup is approximately half a teaspoon per bottle," a Heinz spokeswoman said. "We're not tolerating any circumstances that affect the integrity of our products."

Moisture loss from the plastic containers may have caused the weight problem, the spokeswoman said. Heinz, which has made ketchup for more than a century, met federal standards when the plastic bottles were first used at manufacturing plants in Fremont, Ohio, and Tracy, California, she said.

A consumer complaint last month prompted a nationwide survey by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, a division of the Commerce Department, which so far has found underweight bottles in 20 states.

Commerzbank Acknowledges Tax Errors

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Commerzbank AG confirmed Sunday it had filed incorrect taxes since the mid-1980s, although it called "misleading," a report that it had under-reported its taxable income by many hundreds of millions of Deutsche marks.

Germany's fourth-largest bank is voluntarily correcting its tax returns because it should not have included risk provisions for loans to foreign countries made by its subsidiaries outside Germany, a spokesman, Peter Pietsch, said.

Mr. Pietsch said a report to appear in the magazine Der Spiegel on Monday overstates the amount of under-reported income because it will be partially offset by income that was over-reported in some years.

"The economic effect of tax credits and back taxes over the years cancel each other out to a great extent," Commerzbank said. "The numbers named in Spiegel are misleading."

The article, the text of which was

released over the weekend, says that Commerzbank under-reported its taxable earnings by "many hundreds of millions" of Deutsche marks since 1984.

The article said an initial investigation by tax officials showed that in 1988 alone, Commerzbank under-reported its operating income by 700 million DM (\$470.9 million).

Der Spiegel said the under-reporting cost German taxpayers more than 500 million DM in lost revenue.

Mr. Pietsch said the problems with Commerzbank's past tax reports were discovered as a result of tax raids at the end of February in connection with an investigation of whether the bank helped customers avoid German taxes by transferring deposits to other countries.

Commerzbank has denied any wrongdoing, and said any back taxes it might owe were covered by its existing tax provisions.

Mr. Pietsch added that the bank had offered to amend its tax reports voluntarily and therefore was pro-

TECTED from criminal penalties.

He said the risk provisions were primarily related to loans made to Latin American countries. Some of the loans were made by domestic branches and some by foreign branches, he said.

Commerzbank said it was reviewing whether criminal charges can be made against the person or persons who made confidential tax information public.

(Bloomberg, AP)

Telekom Cable Under Fire

The European Commission is reviewing whether Deutsche Telekom AG should be forced to sell its cable TV business because it might be unfair to competitors for the telecommunications monopoly to be in both businesses, Bloomberg Business News reported from Brussels.

The commission, the executive agency of the European Union, began the review after a complaint by an association of private cable providers known as Anga.

Japan Inc. Gets Jostled as Automakers Flee Offshore

By Sandra Sugawara
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — These are chaotic times for Japan Inc., a fact best illustrated by examining the automobile industry, the very foundation of Japan's export-driven economy.

Only a decade ago, the Japanese car was largely a Made-in-Japan proposition. The cars boasted Japanese workmanship by Japanese laborers who were painstakingly trained in the Japanese philosophy of continuous improvement.

Loyalties between suppliers and manufacturers were intense. For instance, parts for a Nissan car generally came from its *keiretsu* suppliers, groups of companies closely linked to Nissan Motor Co. Replacing a *keiretsu* supplier with an outside business was anathema.

But with the strong yen, which has made Japanese labor and products expensive in recent years, and with more aggressive U.S. competitors, some of those loyalties are giving way to concerns about the bottom line.

Nissan recently announced it was bypassing its *keiretsu* companies for purchases of some of its door-lock sensors, vacuum pumps and brake boosters, headline-making events here. Toyota Motor Corp. is negotiating to buy air bags made by a subsidiary of General Motors Corp.

"Supplier *keiretsu* are beginning to weaken, with companies increasingly crossing group lines to supply components to one-time competitors," says a study by Roger Schreffler of the Economic Intelligence Unit, a private, London-based economic and political information and forecasting organization. "In addition, pressure from the U.S.A., Japan's major trading partner, is forcing manufacturers to accelerate local sourcing programs in North America and to place greater emphasis on the Asian market for future growth."

While this change is expected to bring new business op-

portunities to American companies, analysts warn that it is also making Japanese competitors more formidable. When business is put up for grabs, the winners are usually the larger Japanese suppliers.

What is forcing change in this land where every relationship seems designed to preserve the status quo?

A major force has been the increasingly cost-conscious consumer both here and in the United States. The price of a car is influenced by the cost of its parts; the price of parts is highly dependent on volume. Under the traditional *keiretsu* system, suppliers designed unique parts for their auto companies, meaning lower volumes.

"Japanese automakers have to change their attitude. Up until now, they were very arrogant and demanding with suppliers, deciding all the details of parts and components," said Noboru Hatakeyama, president of the Japan External Trade Organization, a government-funded agency. "Companies cannot afford to keep *keiretsu* relationships any longer. Because it is a stable market instead of a growing market, competition is much more fierce. Cost reduction is now the main thing to pursue."

The movement of more production out of Japan is also destabilizing the status quo here, because the distance from Japan forces companies to deal with new suppliers, analysts said. Japanese automakers produced about 5.7 million vehicles outside Japan last year, about 33 percent of their global production, and that number is growing, according to the Economic Intelligence Unit study.

Toyota Motor Corp. has said it plans to produce 1.2 million vehicles a year in North America, meaning that only about 8 percent of the Toyotas sold in the United States will come from Japan. Before 1986, all Toyota vehicles sold in the United States were made in Japan.

The trade war dispute with the United States over auto parts

last year prompted some of the movement overseas, auto executives said.

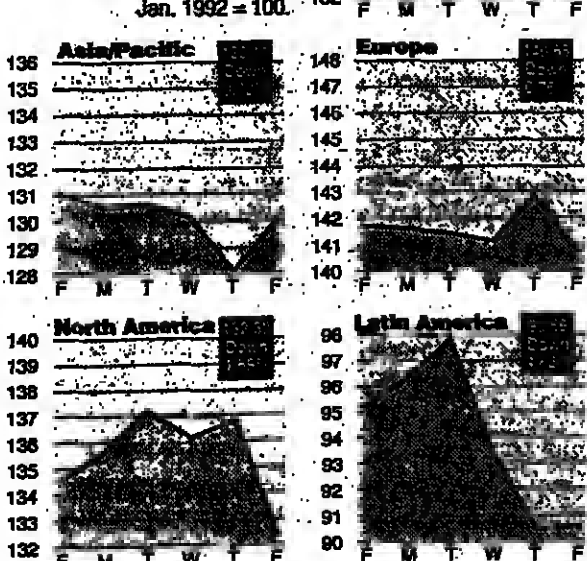
So did the yen's dramatic rise last year.

Consider a Toyota Avalon built when a dollar was worth 90 yen last year. Avalons made in Japan cost about 10 percent more than those built in the United States with more foreign-made parts, said Ender Clarke. The difference was closer to 20 percent, the Kleinwort Benson Ltd. analyst added, because American-made Avalons had air bags and Japanese ones did not.

A dollar is now worth 105.775 yen, giving Japanese manufacturers some breathing room. But automakers insist they are preparing for the day when the yen strengthens to the point where a dollar is worth 80 yen, as was the case briefly last spring. With large Japanese companies still apparently opposed to massive layoffs within Japan, the ability to slash supply costs becomes even more critical.

THE TRIB INDEX

International Herald Tribune	140
World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News	138
Week ending March 8, daily closings, Jan. 1992 = 100	133
Asia/Pacific	136
Europe	147
North America	138
Latin America	98



Industrial Sectors/Weekend close	30-day	30-day	%
Energy	134.94	137.17	-1.63
Utilities	126.04	131.52	-4.17
Finance	121.44	124.52	-2.47
Services	121.71	125.94	-4.71

The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and Amsterdam, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, and Venezuela. The index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the top 100 stocks are tracked.

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CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.
Australian	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Canadian	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
French	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
German	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Japanese	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Swiss	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Other Dollar Values										
Argentine peso	0.0090	0.0058	0.0090	0.0058	0.0090	0.0058	0.0090	0.0058	0.0090	0.0058
Australian \$	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
British \$	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Canadian \$	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Chinese yuan	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Czech koruna	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Danish krone	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
East German mark	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Spanish peseta	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Thai baht	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, New York, Paris, Toronto and Zurich, 8:00 p.m. Other cities: 9:00 p.m. To buy one dollar's worth of 100 U.S. dollars, not quoted U.S. dollars.

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$
Argentine peso	0.0090	Canadian \$	0.65	Chinese yuan	0.0000	East German mark	0.0000
Australian \$	1.00	Danish krone	0.0000	Spanish peseta	0.0000	Thai baht	0.0000
British \$	0.65	East German mark	0.0000	Thai baht	0.0000	U.S. dollar	1.00
Canadian \$	0.65	Spanish peseta	0.0000	U.S. dollar	1.00		
Chinese yuan	0.0000	Thai baht	0.0000				
East German mark	0.0000	U.S. dollar	1.00				
Spanish peseta	0.0000						
Thai baht	0.0000						

Forward Rates

Period	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.	U.S.	U.K.
Forward 3 months	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Forward 6 months	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65
Forward 12 months	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65	1.00	0.65

Sources: U.S. Bank (Amsterdam), Reuters Bank (London), Reuters Bank (Tokyo), Reuters Bank (Zurich), Reuters Bank (Amsterdam), Reuters Bank (London), Reuters Bank (Tokyo), Reuters Bank (Zurich), Reuters Bank (Amsterdam), Reuters Bank (London), Reuters Bank (Tokyo), Reuters Bank (Zurich).

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Figures as of close
of trading Friday, March 8

Grp Name	Fd Name	Last	Wdy	Clps	Grp Name	Fd Name	Last
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1. **Introduction:** This document outlines the proposed changes to the company's internal policies, specifically focusing on the new employee handbook and the updated code of conduct. The goal is to ensure all employees are clear on the expectations and standards of the organization.

2. **Employee Handbook:** The new handbook will be distributed to all employees by the end of the month. It will cover topics such as:

- Company Mission and Values
- Work Hours and Attendance
- Performance Expectations
- Professional Development
- Health and Safety

3. **Code of Conduct:** The updated code of conduct will be implemented immediately. It will define the acceptable behavior for all employees, including:

- Respect for Colleagues
- Confidentiality
- Conflict of Interest
- Harassment and Discrimination

4. **Implementation:** The changes will be implemented through a series of training sessions and communication campaigns. All employees are required to read and understand the new policies by the deadline.

5. **Feedback:** We encourage employees to provide feedback on the new policies. Your input is valuable in ensuring the policies are effective and fair.

6. **Conclusion:** These changes are essential for maintaining a high standard of professionalism and productivity. We thank you for your cooperation and commitment to the company's success.

7. **Signatures:**

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 Date: _____

Prepared by: _____
 Date: _____

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

(Continued From Page 10)

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إدريس الأحمدي

SHORT COVER

German Growth Forecast at 0.8%

KIEL, Germany (Bloomberg) — Germany will steer clear of recession this year, even if the economy remains in the doldrums and joblessness stays near record highs for several more months, the Kiel Institute of World Economics said Sunday.

It forecast that Germany's economy would grow 0.8 percent in 1996, its weakest showing since the 1993 recession.

Lockheed Martin in Talks in Israel

JERUSALEM (Reuters) — Lockheed Martin Corp. is holding preliminary talks with Israel Military Industries about a possible strategic partnership involving IMI's heavy ammunition division, a Lockheed representative in Israel said Sunday.

IMI said it was holding discussions with a number of international companies on possible cooperation with its heavy ammunition plant. The state-owned enterprise has reported huge losses in recent years.

ICI to Increase Investment in India

BOMBAY (Reuters) — ICI PLC said Sunday it planned to invest £200 million (\$304.8 million) in its Indian operations over the next 10 years.

Charles Miller Smith, chief executive of the British chemical giant, said the investment was aimed at increasing sales at its India operations, which already exceed 5 billion rupees (\$146.9 million).

Mr. Smith was quoted as saying in The Economic Times that his company would increase its contribution to Asian operations to 25 percent of global turnover from 15 percent.

Falling Prices Close Pulp Plant

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (Bloomberg) — MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. said Sunday that it would close pulp and lumber operations for two weeks because of a rise in world pulp inventories and plunging prices.

The general manager of the company's Powell River division said lumber and sawmill operations would close from March 31 to April 14. That will be followed by a shutdown of the craft mill operation from April 14 to April 29.

In addition, operation of the mill's pulp machine will be cut to five days a week from seven days for an indefinite period beginning March 17.

Gibson Spurns \$288 Million Offer

CINCINNATI (AP) — Gibson Greetings Inc. has rejected a \$288 million buyout offer from American Greetings Corp. and said it planned to remain an independent company.

American Greetings set a March 19 deadline on Thursday for the Gibson board to decide whether to accept its offer of \$18 per share in cash or stock.

Gibson, the No. 3 U.S. greeting card company, officially spurned the offer Friday after saying Thursday that it did not think the acquisition could pass antitrust scrutiny. American Greetings is the second-largest U.S. company in the industry.

NET: Beware of False Web Sites

Continued from Page 11

what's on that spoof page."

The danger, some say, lies in the risk that someone might mimic legitimate groups to swindle Internet users.

"Suppose the United Way had a charity, and they mentioned it on a Web page," Mr. Pateman said. "Someone could try to get a similar address, copy the United Way page and instruct people to send checks to them."

Jerry Berman, director of the Washington-based Center for Democracy and Technology, said on-line companies and Internet providers were developing security systems for Web pages that will use encrypted codes to safeguard money transfers and credit-card numbers.

Still, the measures will require that Internet users be acquainted with the technology, an assumption that often does not hold up.

"It will always be 'Buyer beware,'" said Ron Plesser, a Washington lawyer and partner with Piper & Marbury, which represents several national on-line services. "You have to use the same precautions as if you received a letter from a business or charity. You better check it out before handing over your credit-card number."

Mr. Plesser said current laws covering fraud apply to Internet fraud, although they can be tougher to enforce because of the vastness of cyberspace and the anonymity it provides. Those laws, he added, probably would not apply to the phony White House Web page "because that's a parody, which is protected under free speech laws."

President Wires Classrooms to the Internet

With a length of electrical cable and a nod to the American traditions of barn-raising, Mr. Clinton helped wire high school classrooms near the San Francisco Bay to the Internet in a first step toward his goal of connecting every school in the country by the turn of the century. The New York Times reported Saturday from Concord, California.

Internet address: CyberScope@ihl-lib.demon.co.uk

The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, March 11-15

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News.

Asia-Pacific		Europe		Americas	
Expected This Week	Kaigoorie, Australia: 1996 Australian Gold Conference, March 12 to 14. Kyoto, Japan: Ministers of APEC attend third annual meeting to discuss markets, infrastructure investment and foreign exchange rates' impact on trade and investment. March 16 to 17.	Monday March 11 Tokyo: Current-account balance figures for January; machine tool orders for January; Keidanren president. Shochiro Toyoda, holds press conference. Earnings expected: Cathay Pacific Airways.	Monday March 11 London: Producer prices for February. Paris: Bank of France monetary policy council meets; February consumer price index. Stockholm: State borrowing requirements.	Monday March 11 Boca Raton, Florida: International Futures Industry Conference, March 13 to 16. Mexico City: The Mexican Bankers Association's annual convention, March 14 to 16. San Diego: Standard & Poor's seminars on "Insurance: An Industry in Transition," March 11 to 12.	
Tuesday March 12	Jakarta: PT Gudang Garam holds shareholders meeting to approve a stock split. Tokyo: Cabinet ministers hold regularly scheduled news conference. Wellington: Import orders for January.	Tuesday March 12 Bern: Fourth-quarter gross domestic product figures. London: January construction orders. Paris: Eurodisney holds general shareholder meeting.	Tuesday March 12 Mexico City: Foreign reserve levels. New York: Weekly survey of total sales at more than 20 U.S. department, discount and chain stores. Washington: Fourth-quarter current account trade balance; January wholesale trade.		
Wednesday March 13	Sydney: March consumer sentiment index. Tokyo: Konaka Co. auctions 1.1 million shares in initial public offering; Regional Banks Association of Japan holds press conference. Wellington: February food prices.	Wednesday March 13 Copenhagen: February car sales. London: February unemployment statistics and January wage data. Madrid: February consumer prices. Paris: French first-quarter business confidence survey.	Wednesday March 13 Columbus, Ohio: CompuServe Inc. launches WOW!, an on-line service designed for home subscribers. Washington: House Banking and Financial Services Committee holds a hearing on risk assessment of financial institutions.		
Thursday March 14	Tokyo: Wholesale price index for February. Wellington: Labor costs for October-December quarter. Tokyo: Ministry of International Trade and Industry holds press conference.	Thursday March 14 Frankfurt: Bundesbank policy-setting council meets. Paris: Eurotunnel, last day for banks to decide on debt talks. Stockholm: Consumer price figures for February; fourth-quarter gross domestic product.	Thursday March 14 Washington: Initial weekly state unemployment compensation insurance claims; producer price index for February; Federal Reserve Board reports weekly money supply. Ottawa: February consumer price.		
Friday March 15	Taipei: Foreign exchange reserves ending December 1995. Tokyo: Tokyo Shoko Research and Tokoku Data Bank release bankruptcies in February. Wellington: Total overseas debt for the October-December quarter.	Friday March 15 Copenhagen: December trade balance and current accounts. Rome: January non-European Union trade balance, December EU trade balance. Voorburg, Netherlands: January industrial and retail sales.	Friday March 15 Washington: Industrial production and capacity utilization for February; commercial and industrial loans at U.S. commercial banks; consumer price index for February. Caracas: Central bank releases international reserves figures.		

Francophones Stake Out Internet Turf

The Associated Press

PARIS — In their war to prevent English-language domination, the French are turning their attention to the most global realm of all: cyberspace.

As Internet use spreads, French-speaking Internet promoters — from the Ministry of Culture to cyberspace crusaders in French-speaking Canada — are working on the first-ever on-line French-language searching software and a French vocabulary for Net users.

The goal: to allow cybernauts to use the Net without submitting to English, which dominates the worldwide computer network.

"For me, the Internet is the theater for a new colonial war," said Alain

Caristan, a researcher at the French computer research institute Inria. "Anglophones created the Internet. They're at the heart of its growth. There's a danger it'll stay that way."

Such search programs as Yahoo and Webcrawler, tools that enable users to find what they are looking for on the Net, are virtually all in English. They also are geared to find English-language information, though links to foreign sites are certainly plentiful.

That puts non-Anglophones at a disadvantage. They must understand English to use such devices even to find information in their own languages — devices that often do not accept accented letters.

"It's fair to say the very existence of a

language will be threatened if it isn't computerized," the Francophone Agency for Higher Learning and Research has warned.

In February, a group of French researchers put the first all-French search engine, Lokace (<http://www.ijplus.fr/lokace>), on the Net. Francophones can use it to find information in any of the thousands of French-language sites.

"In geographical space, the French-speaking world is dispersed," said Pierre Oudart, who is compiling a French vocabulary of Net jargon for the Culture Ministry in Paris. "But in virtual space, via the Internet, the entire French-speaking world is at your fingertips, from France to Quebec or elsewhere."

Microsoft and Allies Plan On-Line Links

Bloomberg Business News

REDMOND, Washington — Microsoft Corp. is to announce Monday a series of alliances with phone and technology companies to provide high-speed links to the Internet for Windows 95 users.

The program is another move by Microsoft to persuade personal computer owners to use its Internet browsing software, and it could deal a blow to rival Netscape Communications Corp. Microsoft is targeting Netscape, whose software is used by 85 percent of the market, or 20 million users.

About a third of the 19 million people who bought Windows 95 last year use Microsoft's Internet Explorer, and Microsoft is trying to convert the rest.

"Our customers have asked us for a no-hassle way to turbocharge their Internet use," said Brad Silverberg, vice president of the Internet platform and tools division at Microsoft.

Microsoft said it would distribute free software via the Internet that adapts the Windows 95 operating system to use integrated services digital network telephone lines.

Customers can then ask for information from Microsoft's 14 long-distance, local telephone and Internet access partners and automatically request the service via the Internet.

Integrated services digital network delivers information about five times as fast as the technology on phone lines used by most consumers. High-speed access to the Internet lets publishers put better photos, videos and sound on the Internet. But the more advanced network costs more than standard phone data transmission systems.

Microsoft's allies in the project are MCI Communications Corp., Sprint Corp., GTE Corp., Southern New England Telecommunications Corp., Ameritech Corp., Bell Atlantic Corp., BellSouth Corp., Nynex Corp., Pacific Telesis Group, U.S. West Inc., Umet Technologies Inc. and Netcom On-Line Communications Services Inc.

It is also working with hardware companies, including Motorola Inc., Global Village Communications, National Semiconductor Corp., U.S. Robotics Corp. and 3Com Corp.

CROATIA: Funds Sought

Continued from Page 11

building in which, before the breakup of Yugoslavia, it had a strong presence.

But the main priority is tourism, increased earnings from which are essential if Croatia is to keep its current-account deficit in check.

Before 1991, tourism was Croatia's most important foreign exchange earner, yielding it an average \$5 billion a year — although officials say that most of the income was redistributed by Belgrade to other parts of Yugoslavia.

Last year, by comparison, tourism receipts were down to around \$1 billion, with many hotels along the Adriatic still occupied by some of Croatia's 770,000 war refugees, and others unrepaired after the previous two years of Serbian shelling.

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HUNGARY

AFTER THE PAIN, AUSTERITY PAYS OFF

Hungary's austerity program has helped balance the country's books and kept its economy growing steadily, if slowly.

Faced with growing budget and trade deficits, Prime Minister Gyula Horn's government launched a sweeping austerity program in early March 1995. Formulated by former Finance Minister Lajos Bokros, the program's main measures consisted of a 3 percent across-the-board slashing of the federal budget, tax hikes, cuts in social benefits, layoffs in the civil service, the slapping of an 8 percent surcharge on imports and an immediate 9 percent devaluation of the forint.

The first year of the program has seen a drop in the country's average standard of living — and a sharp rise in exports, the country's credit rating and industrial output.

Foreign direct investment reached record highs. This investment has been partially facilitated by Hungary's highly successful privatization program, now in its final stages. Hungary is set to record a 3 percent or higher rate of economic growth in 1996.

This success has not been achieved painlessly. For the average Hungarian, the austerity measures translated into sacrifice. Real wages dropped some 13 percent over the past year, lowering the average standard of living by 10 percent.

These official figures detail the privation undeniably suffered by many Hungarians, but they also have to be taken with a grain of salt. Working off the books has become "virtually a national pastime in Hungary, one more popular and prevalent with each tax increase," says Bela Singlovics, chief executive officer of Budapest Bank.

DEFICITS TRIMMED

For the federal budget, the austerity has brought appreciable results. Once running at 6.4 percent of gross domestic product, the federal deficit was trimmed 1.4 percentage points by the end of the year, with an equivalent improvement forecast for 1996. With January's results showing a budget surplus — the first one in memory — this forecast could be too pessimistic.

The trade deficit also reacted well to the measures. The rate of increase in imports had been rising sharply in the months before the austerity program but lost some steam in its aftermath, finishing at a reasonable 7 percent over 1994.

The greatest factor impelling the net \$1.2 billion improvement in the balance of trade, however, was Hungary's ongoing success in selling its products internationally, according to Imre Dunai, Hungary's minister of industry and trade.

cent to the region," Mr. Dunai adds.

"Most of all, the exporters were helped by the decline of wages, which priced their products back into many major markets, and by the ongoing strong increase in work force productivity." After recording a remarkable 18 percent rise in 1994, the average productivity of the highly skilled Hungarian work force rose another 16 percent in 1995.

HIGH PRODUCTIVITY

High productivity has been a major factor in convincing foreign companies to invest their long-term capital in Hungary, along with the country's political stability and attractive lifestyle, points out Viktor Polgar, a spokesman for Hungary's privatization agency.

Representing 55 percent of all net long-term funds invested in Central and Eastern Europe, the foreign companies' \$13 billion total investment has gone toward building and modernizing production facilities. Constructed by GE, GM, Ford, IBM, Alcatel, Philips, Audi, BASF and dozens of other international corporations over the last six years, these are now coming on-line. "It's a beneficial circle," says Mr. Dunai. "As each new facility begins to produce, our productivity figures improve, as do the modernity and attractiveness of our products, thus inducing further investment."

The result was a 6 percent rise in industrial output in 1995, one of the best percentages in Europe. The expansion of Hungary's industrial sector has been paralleled by a drop in unemployment from 12.1 percent in December 1993 to 10 percent in January 1996. "In such high-growth centers as Szekesfevar and Gyor, that figure is much lower," Mr. Dunai adds.

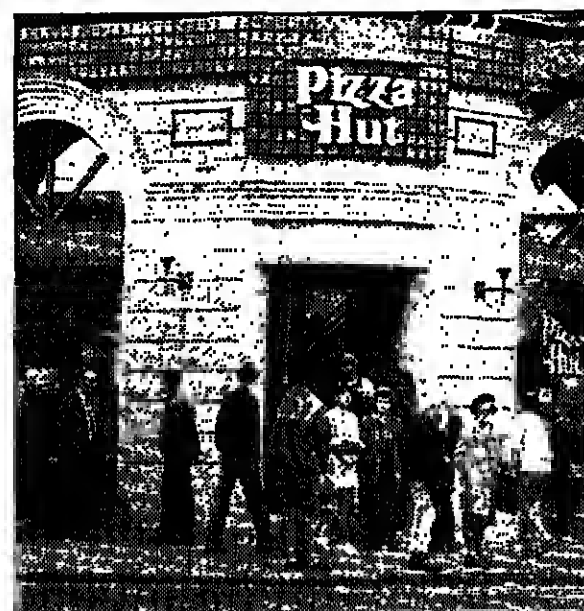
GROWTH IN THE WEST

Szekesfevar and Gyor are both homes to successful business parks, with further ones now in development in Szentgotthard and Tatabanya. All these cities are in Hungary's fast-growing western region, a belt some 200 kilometers wide located between Austria and Budapest.

The west has the advantages of a favorable location and a broad-based business community. The country's eastern third has neither. "We have a rather anomalous situation: tight labor markets in the west, high unemployment in the east and a relatively immobile labor force unwilling or unable to relocate from the latter to the former," says Mr. Dunai.

The Hungarian government is busy alleviating housing shortages, the prime cause of this immobility. To foster business development in the east, a major program to upgrade infrastructure has been launched. "Companies want to take advantage of the low labor and property costs in the east; it's just been hard for them to reach the area. We're working very hard on remedying that," says Mr. Dunai.

According to Germany's Handelsblatt business daily, the country's



GDP grew by a solid 1.5 percent in 1995, on a par with many of its counterparts in Western Europe, if behind several in the East. The National Bank of Hungary conservatively puts the figure at the breakeven point.

"And we're just starting to get the real payoff from the austerity program," Mr. Dunai states. Independent research institutes have forecast a 3 percent to 4 percent surge in GDP in 1996, enough to put Hungary in the upper-middle range of Europe's growth tables.

"And enough to make a material difference in our hard-pressed population's standard of living," Mr. Dunai adds.

Terry Swartzberg

Scenes from the capital, Budapest: The drive to attract foreign investment is reflected in the city's landscape by the addition of Western commercial franchises (above) to historical landmarks such as the Buda Castle (bottom right) and the 1896 monument erected in Heroes Square to commemorate Hungary's millennium (top left).



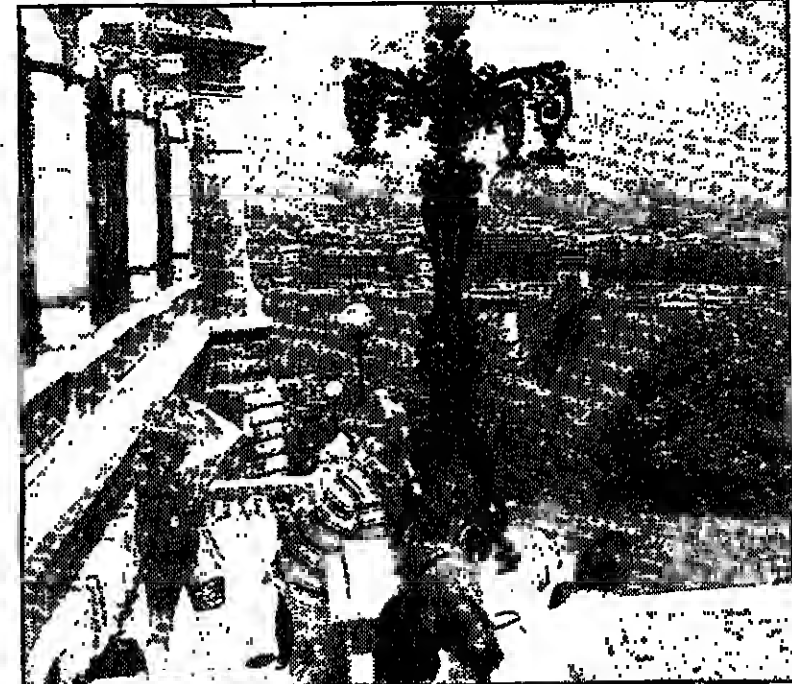
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CAPITAL:
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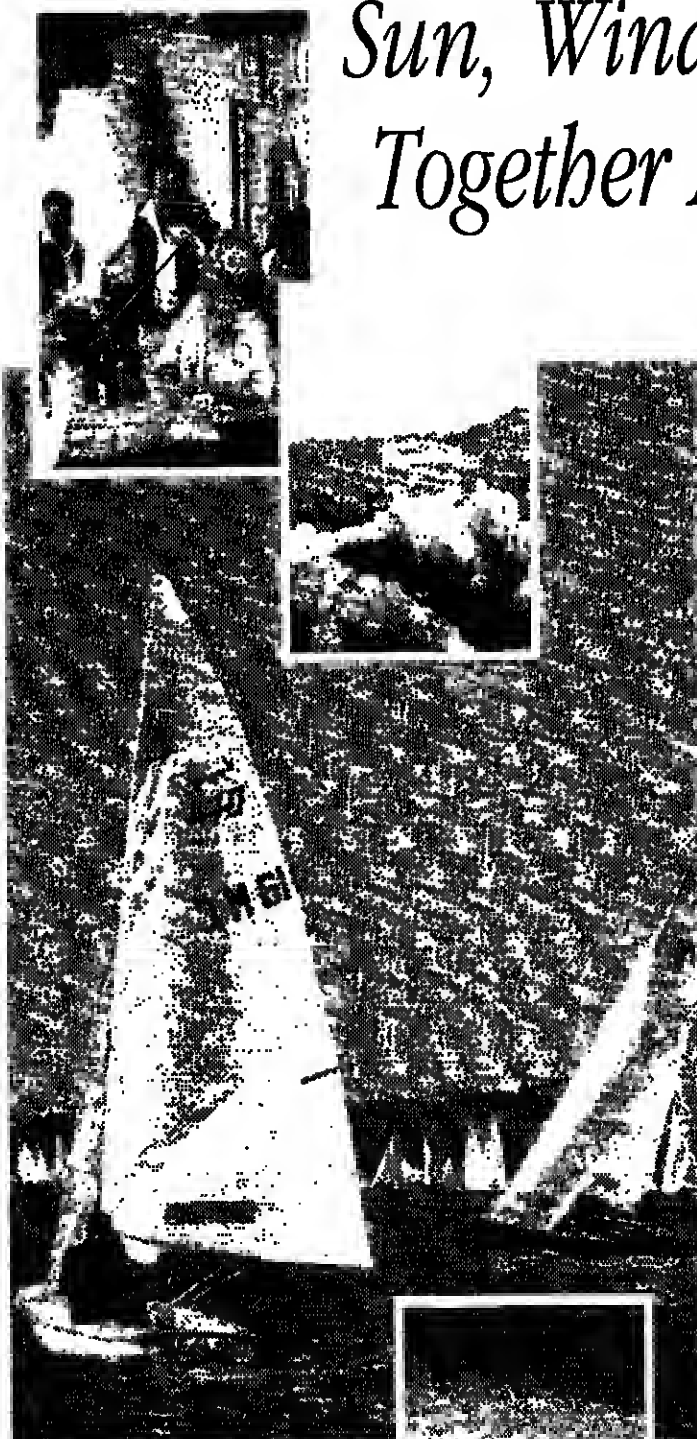


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HUNGARY

Sell-off success is forecast to continue in 1996.

This astounding sum was largely achieved by the sale of a further stake in MATAV, the nation's telecom monopoly, to a German-American corporation; by the privatization of much of the nation's energy supply and distribution sectors; and by the floating on the Budapest stock exchange of further stakes in such blue chips as Gedeon Richter, the highly successful pharmaceuticals manufacturer.

NEW INVESTORS SOUGHT

APV is now predicting steady progress for the nation's privatization program in 1996. Though their sales sheet is shorter now, the agency forecasts some \$750 million in proceeds for the year, much of that to come from the sale of international hotels and other attractive items on its list. These high-profile prospects notwithstanding,

The country intends to become an actor on the world stage.

Using concrete actions rather than loud words – in this case to advance its bid for NATO membership – is typical of Hungary's approach to foreign policy.

EU MEMBER BY 2000?

No such reporting is needed in the economic area, where the facts speak clearly for themselves. For all intents and purposes, Hungary is already fully integrated into the European Union. Impelled by the sweeping provisions of the EU-Hungarian Agreement of Association, Hungary now conducts more than two-thirds of its trade and an even higher percentage of its capital transactions with EU member-countries.

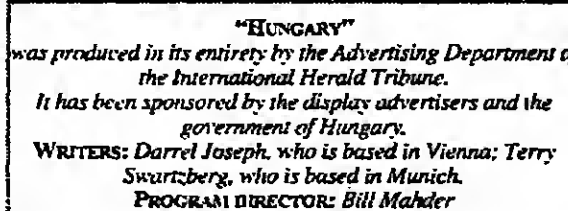
This high degree of legislative and economic integra-



SPOTLIGHT

Schoolboys Harness the Wind

In early December, the two teenage schoolboys from Esztergom, Hungary won first place in a German-sponsored contest for environment-friendly design, beating out 96 other young innovators from more than 30 countries.



ATTRACTIVE



Fundamental indicators show a turnaround.

For Almos Kovacs, deputy president of the National Bank of Hungary, the country's central bank, the strengthening of the country's domestic banking sector is as gratifying as the lightening of the international debt load and the international commendation Hungary is enjoying.

BANK AND BUSINESS PROFITS LINKED

EASTER CREDIT A BOON

EASTER CREDIT A BOON

"Although the foreign banks have substantially increased their market share," says Mr. Kovacs, "the competitive pressures they exert have actually been quite beneficial to their domestic counterparts, forcing them to increase their efficiency, offer new services and trim bloating work forces. By doing so, the domestic banks have been able to effectively deploy their considerable assets, which include their large numbers of outlets and their detailed knowledge of local sectors and markets."

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Continued on Page 21

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The successful candidates will be fluent in English. CV and letter of application should be addressed to: Monsieur le Secrétaire Général de la Formation de la CCI Marseille-Provence, Groupe ESC Marseille-Provence, Domaine de Lumlay - BP 921 - 13288 Marseille Cedex 09. Tél.: 91 82 78 03 - Fax: 91 82 78 04. E-Mail: sgf@escm.p-3m.fr

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DOONESBURY



PANEL 1: A man in a suit and tie stands on the left, looking at Sarge. Sarge is on the right, wearing his signature sergeant's uniform and cap, sitting at a desk with a typewriter. Sarge has a mischievous expression.

PANEL 2: Sarge is speaking, gesturing with his hand. The man is not visible in this panel.

PANEL 3: Sarge is shown from the chest up, looking smug and satisfied. The man is not visible.

Panel 1 Dialogue:
 MAN: SARGE, LEND ME \$50 AND I'LL PAY IT BACK WITH INTEREST AS SOON AS I CAN
 SARGE: HA!

Panel 2 Dialogue:
 SARGE: SARGE'S ASTUTE OBSERVATIONS ON HUMAN BEHAVIOR #28

Panel 3 Dialogue:
 SARGE: PEOPLE WHO OFFER TO PAY BACK A LOAN WITH INTEREST USUALLY LOSE INTEREST IN PAYING IT BACK AS SOON AS THEY GET THE LOAN

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3-11

Steve Meyers

HERE'S MY SIXTH-GRADE REPORT CARD!

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PETER DINKLAGE '84-11

A cartoon illustration showing a cowboy riding a bucking horse. The horse is rearing up, and the cowboy is holding on. In the foreground, a person is sitting and reading a newspaper, with a hat on their head. The scene is set outdoors with a simple horizon line.

Unscramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square, to form
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MOWNE

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Print answer here : _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumble:

NIECE MAIZE PACKET CAVORT
Answer: What the complicated dessert was to the
great lady! — A PIECE OF CAKE

Now, THAT'S a word!

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FAMILY'S VISIT
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Now arrange the circled letters to
form the surprising answer, as sug-
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UConn Fights Back To Win Big East Final

Allen Finds Range to Sink Hoyas

The Associated Press
The third-ranked Connecticut Huskies scored 12 unanswered points at the finish to beat No. 6 Georgetown, 75-74, and win the Big East conference championship.

Jabidi White's three-point play gave the Hoyas a 74-63 lead with 4:46 left, but Kirk King, playing the role down the stretch that is usually reserved for Roy Allen, scored eight of the next 10 points to get the Huskies within 74-73 with

1:05 left. Allen, who missed 14 consecutive shots and had been held to just three free throws in the second half, rediscovered his touch with 13 seconds left and scored the game-winning basket on a driving shot.

Georgetown's star, Allen Iverson, also struggled in the second half. He sat on the bench for almost five minutes with four fouls though he had a chance to make the winning shot, but his driving jumper missed, as did a putback by Jerome Williams, at the buzzer.

No. 2 Massachusetts 75, Temple 61. Camelo Travieso hit seven three-pointers, leading Massachusetts to its fifth consecutive Atlantic-10 championship. Travieso finished with 21 points as the second-ranked Minutemen (31-1) earned the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. UMass also set a school record for wins.

No. 1 Kentucky 95, Arkansas 75. The top-ranked Wildcats (28-1) continued their march to a perfect Southeastern Conference season, winning their 27th straight game in the SEC semifinals.

No. 25 Mississippi St. 86, Georgia 68. Darryl Wilson scored 21 points to lead four players in double figures as Mississippi State (21-9) reached the SEC championship game for the first time since 1933 when State lost that first-ever SEC championship to Kentucky.

No. 5 Kansas 61, Kansas St. 55. Raef LaFrentz led Kansas past Kansas State in the semifinals of the Big Eight tournament, scoring 16 points and grabbing 13 rebounds. The Jayhawks (26-3) scored only two points in the last 3:42, but held on for an eighth-straight victory against State.

No. 23 Iowa St. 57, Missouri 53. Dedric Willoughby scored 25 points, including two free throws with 21 seconds left that pushed Iowa State past Missouri in the Big Eight semifinals.

No. 7 Texas Tech 75, Texas 73. Cory

Carr scored 18 of his 21 points in the second half, and Jason Sasser scored 24 as Texas Tech (28-1) won the last ever Southwestern Conference championship. Texas' Reggie Freeman scored 32 points and hit seven three-pointers but missed from the free-throw line with a chance to tie the score with 3.2 seconds left.

No. 8 Cincinnati 85, No. 21 Marquette 84. Darnell Burto's basket with 40.5 seconds left in overtime moved Cincinnati (25-4) past Marquette for the Conference USA tournament championship. Damon Flint followed with two free throws to make it 85-81 with 16.1 seconds left.

The conference which was in its first season does not yet carry an automatic NCAA tournament spot.

No. 12 Wake Forest 69, Clemson 60. Tim Duncan's 22 points and 19 rebounds carried defending champion Wake Forest (22-5) past Clemson and into the Atlantic Coast Conference title game.

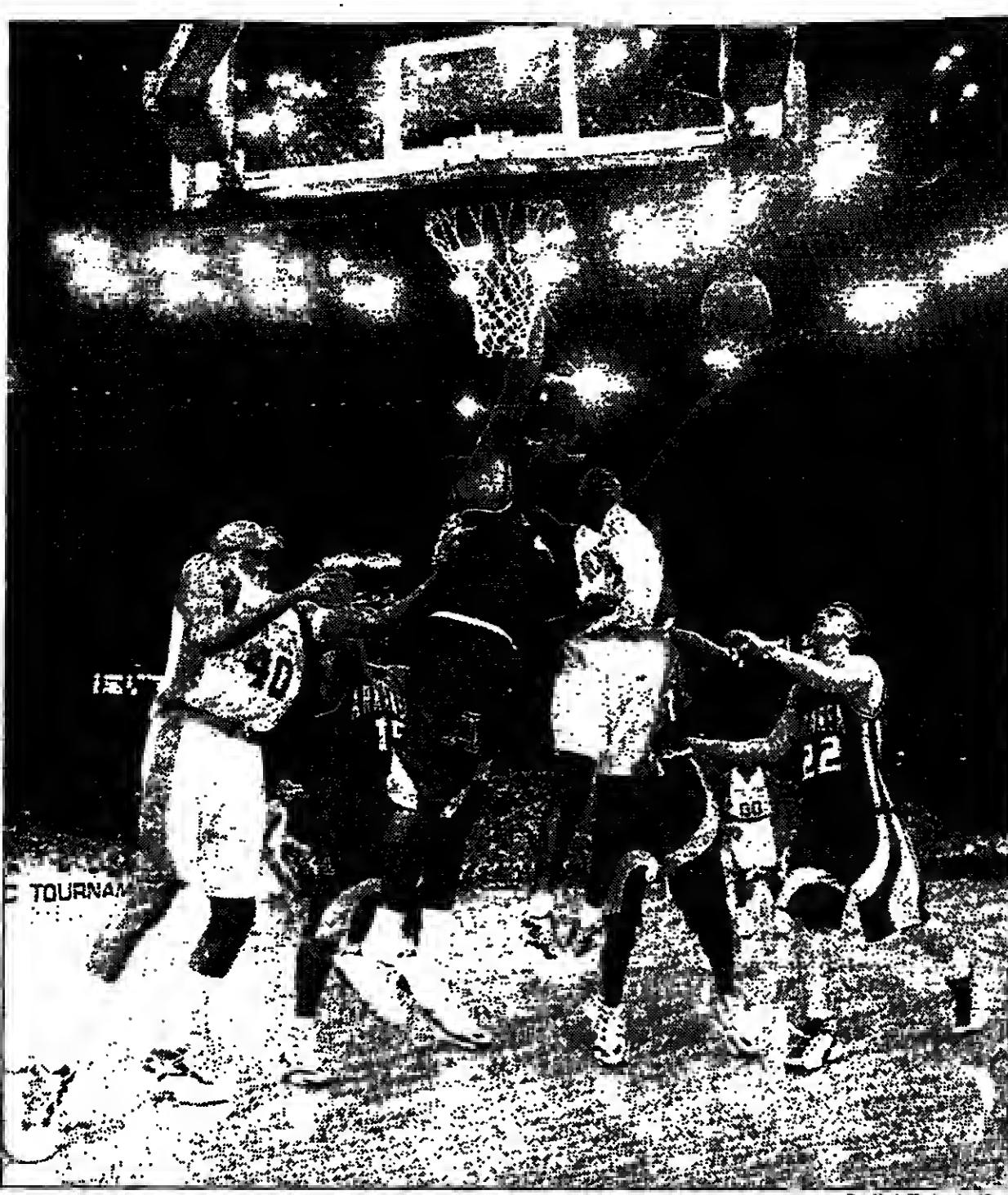
No. 18 Georgia Tech 84, Maryland 79. Tech (22-10) ran its ACC winning streak to nine games, tying a school record, and moved into the tournament final on some hot three-point shooting. The Yellow Jackets converted nine of 14 three-point attempts.

No. 11 Arizona 71, California 68. Michael Dickerson scored 18 points, including two late free throws, as Arizona (24-6, 13-5 Pac-10) came from behind to beat California.

No. 17 UCLA 82, Washington St. 71. Charles O'Bannon scored 24 points and freshman Jelani McCoy added 20 as the defending NCAA champion, UCLA, beat Washington. The Pac-10 champion Bruins (23-7, 16-2) beat the Cougars for the 39th straight time in Los Angeles.

Princeton 63, Penn 56. Sydney Johnson's three-point play with 1:03 left in overtime lifted Princeton past Penn in their playoff for the Ivy League championship and end Penn's three-year reign. After the game, Princeton coach Pete Carril said he would retire following the NCAA tournament.

Eastern Michigan 77, Toledo 63. Eastern Michigan (24-5) earned its ticket to the NCAA tournament by winning the Mid-American Conference champion-



Kentucky's Allen Edwards driving to the basket against Darnell Robinson of Arkansas at the Superdome.

Missed 3-Pointers Cost Dallas an NBA Victory

The Associated Press
The Dallas Mavericks live or die by the three-point shot. On Saturday night, they died. The Mavericks missed two three-pointers in the last 15 seconds and let the Detroit Pistons escape with a 92-91 victory. The Pistons won for the fourth time in five games, while Dallas dropped its second in a row. "This is a tremendous win," said the Pistons' coach, Doug Collins. "We were really sluggish after a brutal road trip, and

they gave us a lot of matchup problems, but we hung on." Odis Thorpe led Detroit with 20 points and 15 rebounds. Nuggets 102, Warriors 88. In Denver, Bryant Stith scored a season-high 27 points and Dale Ellis had 20 as Denver defeated Golden State. Stith sank 10 of 11 free throws as Denver snapped Golden State's modest two-game winning streak. Latrell Sprewell scored 19 points for Golden State, which lost for the fifth time in its last seven games.

Devils Extend Streak With 4-3 Triumph

The Associated Press
Steve Thomas scored his second goal of the game 21 seconds into overtime on Saturday as the New Jersey Devils extended their unbeaten streak to seven games by beating the Pittsburgh Penguins, 4-3.

Pittsburgh's eight-game home winning streak ended as the Devils improved to 5-0-2 in the last seven games. New Jersey is unbeaten in 15 overtime games this year.

Thomas scored the winning goal, his 22d of the season, after Sergei Brylin

NHL ROUNDUP

got by Ron Francis and centered. Thomas chipped the shot past the Penguins' goalie, Tom Barrasso. New Jersey crushed Pittsburgh, 40-20.

Islanders 4, Jets 2. In Winnipeg, Bryan McCabe scored the go-ahead goal in the second period. Derek Armstrong, Zigmund Palffy and Alexander Semak also scored for the Islanders. Keith Tkachuk and Dallas Drake scored for Winnipeg.

Rangers 6, Capitals 1. In Landover, Maryland, Alexei Kovalev scored two of New York's five power-play goals as the Rangers ended a season-high, five-game winless streak. Mark Messier added a goal and two assists for the Rangers.

Bruins 3, Flyers 2. In Boston, Don Sweeney scored his fourth goal of the season with 2:38 left as Boston rallied. Sweeney took a pass from Sandy Moger and drove the puck past Garth Snow.

Avalanche 7, Canucks 5. In Vancouver, Peter Forsberg assisted on four goals as Colorado survived a hat trick by Trevor Linden. Claude Lemieux scored two power-play goals and Valeri Kamensky had one.

Canadiens 3, Senators 2. In Montreal, Vladimir Malakhov scored one goal and set up another as the Canadiens sent the Senators to their sixth straight loss. Martin Rucinsky and Pierre Turgeon scored power-play goals for Montreal.

Maple Leafs 4, Flames 3. In Toronto, the Maple Leafs stopped a 10-game winless streak, their longest slide in five years, behind three goals from Kirk Muller. Mike Gartner also scored for the Leafs.

Blues 6, Wolves 3. In St. Louis, Wayne Gretzky scored his first two goals at his new St. Louis home. Gretzky scored his 17th goal in the second period, had an empty-netter with 14.3 seconds to go and added an assist, giving him five points in the last two games.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	46	15	.754	—
New York	34	24	.587	11 1/2
Atlanta	29	29	.500	16 1/2
Washington	27	31	.467	17
New Jersey	24	34	.413	21
Boston	22	36	.379	24
Philadelphia	12	47	.203	33

CENTRAL DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	39	22	.639	—
Indiana	39	22	.639	15 1/2
Atlanta	34	26	.567	20
Cleveland	34	26	.567	20
Detroit	33	27	.550	21
Charlotte	29	31	.483	25
Memphis	21	39	.347	32 1/2
Toronto	11	47	.190	39 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

PACIFIC DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	47	12	.793	—
L.A. Lakers	38	21	.645	10 1/2
Phoenix	30	29	.500	18 1/2
Golden State	28	31	.479	19 1/2
Portland	27	32	.458	20 1/2
Sacramento	25	34	.427	22 1/2
L.A. Clippers	21	39	.350	26

WESTERN DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	42	17	.712	—
San Antonio	41	18	.693	1 1/2
Houston	40	19	.680	2 1/2
Denver	36	23	.610	6 1/2
Dallas	26	33	.441	16 1/2
Minnesota	19	41	.313	23 1/2
Vancouver	11	47	.190	30 1/2

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

Prosser	20	22	.476
Denver	26	34	.433
Drillers	27	39	.329

Amiez Grabs Cup In Final Slalom

LILLEHAMMER, Norway — Sebastian Amiez of France took the slalom World Cup away from Alberto Tomba on Sunday.

Amiez, who started the last slalom of the season 19 points ahead of his Italian rival, won second place to clinch the Cup. Tomba skied an error-ridden second leg to finish fourth and surrender the trophy he won last season.

Sunday's race, the final event of the World Cup season, was won by the Austrian Thomas Sykora in a two-leg time of one minute 44.40 seconds.

Amiez set the fastest time in the first leg, and finished with an aggregate time of 1:44.87. Two-time world champion Tomba, who had been only 0.09 seconds behind Amiez after the first leg, clocked an aggregate 1:45.05.

Amiez became the first Frenchman to win the slalom World Cup since Jean-Noel Augert won in 1972. He finished atop the final standings with 539 points. Tomba was second with 490 points and Sykora third with 446.

"I'm glad for him," said Tomba. "He deserves to win the World Cup because he's been more consistent. He might become the new Tomba because he's such a great skier."

"Now I'm going to take three months' holiday," added Tomba, who said he was tired of permanent pressure from the media and would make a decision in July on whether to continue his career.

But with next year's world championships being held in Sestriere, Italy,

many believe Tomba will carry on.

"I was a bit afraid to crack under pressure," said Amiez, with a huge smile. "I knew it would be difficult. I couldn't afford a single mistake with Tomba so close behind."

Amiez won only one race this season, in January in Veysonnaz, Switzerland, but he finished all nine slaloms and ended in the top five in all of them but one.

Earlier, Karin Roten of Switzerland edged the world champion Pernilla Wiberg of Sweden in the slalom to clinch her first World Cup victory in the last race of the women's season.

Roten, 20, posted a combined time of one minute, 51.85 for the two runs on the Olympic course, on which Wiberg finished fourth at the 1994 Lillehammer Games.

Wiberg, the slalom and giant slalom gold medalist in the world championships in Sierra Nevada, Spain, last month, placed second in 1:52.08, while Mariann Eide of Norway finished third in 1:52.80.

Roten profited from the fall of her Swiss teammate, Mariann Eide, the first-run leader who fell in the second heat. Eide climbed back onto the course, only to finish last.

Martina Ertl of Germany finished fifth to garner second place in overall World Cup standings, displacing Anita Wachter of Austria, who dropped to third after finishing 13th in the race.

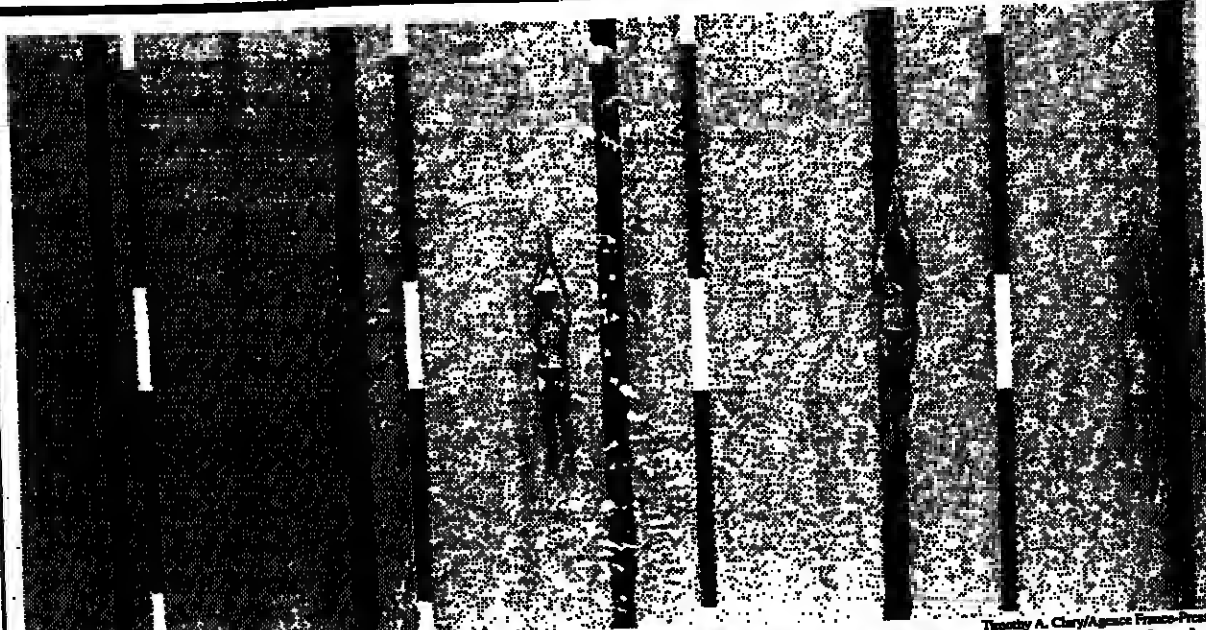
Katja Seizinger, also of Germany, had already clinched the overall title, with 1,472 points. Ertl finished with 1,059, while Wachter had 1,044.

On Saturday, Tomba finished fourth in the final giant slalom. Urs Kaelin of Switzerland, who finished second behind Tomba in the giant slalom in Sierra Nevada, built up a huge lead with an aggressive first leg before clocking a winning combined time of two minutes 12.44 seconds.

The World Cup in the discipline had already gone to Switzerland's Michael von Grütigen, who allowed himself to relax a little on Saturday and finished more than two seconds behind his team mate.

Ertl sealed victory in the women's giant slalom World Cup by taking second place in the season's final event, won by Seizinger, on Saturday. A top-12 finish would have been enough for Ertl to make sure of her first World Cup victory, but she chose to attack to end up second in 2:16.39.

Ertl topped the final standings with 485 points. Seizinger was second, beating Wachter of Austria with 410 points.



REACHING FOR ATLANTA: U.S. swimmers pushing off in the men's 100-meter backstroke in the Olympic swimming trials at Indiana University in Indianapolis. Janet Evans, 24, won the 400-meter freestyle to qualify for her third Olympics on Saturday. Janet Foschi, who tested positive for steroids last year, finished fifth and failed to gain a place, but her strongest event, the 800-meter free, was still to come.

India and Sri Lanka Gain Semifinals

BANGALORE, India — Pakistan, the defending champion, was knocked out of the World Cup of Cricket on Saturday by India.

Pakistan, which played the quarter final without its injured captain, Wasim Akram, was forced to chase a huge target of 288 for victory in only 49 overs instead of 50, after being punished for bowling its overs too slowly when India batted.

With 37 balls remaining, 57 runs required and five wickets in hand, Pakistan appeared on course for a remarkable triumph. But it was stopped by bowlers Anil Kumble and Venkatesh Prasad, both Bangalore born, who shared six wickets between them. Pakistan finished on 248 runs for nine wickets.

The result was greeted with fireworks, bonfires and frenzied celebrations at the end of a volatile game which threatened to boil over in the space of two deliveries from Prasad to Pakistan's acting captain, Aamir Sohail.

Sohail taunted the bowler after smashing him to the boundary, but was bowled swinging wildly at the next ball and was pointed the way back to the pavilion by an enraged Prasad.

For a split second it seemed like Sohail might stop and confront his opponent. But he resisted the temptation and Prasad earned a stiff lecture from the English umpire David Shepherd, surrounded by protesting Indians.

WORLD CUP CRICKET

The Pakistan players also complained to the umpires during the Indian innings after several objects, including a tin can, pieces of fruit and plastic water bottles, were thrown at boundary fieldsmen from the stands.

The man-of-the-match award went to Navjot Singh, who hit 93 as India reached 287, its highest one-day score against Pakistan.

In reply, Sohail and Saeed Anwar put on 84 in the first 10 overs of Pakistan's innings. Then Anwar sided the persevering Javagal Srinath to long-on off the first ball of the 11th over.

Sohail clubbed Srinath for six to reach a 41-ball half-century, but then came the 15th over that transformed India's fortunes as Prasad took the first three wickets that turned the game.

In Faisalabad, Pakistan, Sri Lanka opener Sanath Jayasuriya played one of the outstanding innings in World Cup history as his side crushed England to reach the semifinals for the first time.

Jayasuriya blasted 82 in just 44 balls as Sri Lanka eased to a five-wicket quarterfinal victory, passing England's 235 for eight with 9.2 of their 50 overs to spare. The left-hander reached 50 in just 30 deliveries, equalling the fastest ever in the World Cup by England's Chris Old, Imran Khan of Pakistan and New Zealand's Martin Crowe.

He was on the way to overthrowing Clive Lloyd's 21-year-old record for the quickest century in the competition, achieved in 82 balls, when he was

stumped by Jack Russell off Dermot Reeve's medium-pace bowling.

Jayasuriya hit 13 fours and three sixes, and by the time he was dismissed the result had effectively become a formality.

England's captain, Mike Atherton, won the toss, but his team was shackled by the Sri Lankan off-spin bowlers Muttiah Muralitharan and Kumar Dharmasena, who between them took four for 67 in 20 overs.

England achieved a respectable total thanks to a quickfire 67 in 64 balls from the all-rounder Phillip DeFreitas and a late flourish from Reeve and Darren Gough that produced 62 in the last nine overs.

Jayasuriya and Anura Kumara Gurusinha put on 101 for the second wicket in 11 overs, and after the former's departure, Gurusinha helped keep Sri Lanka on course for victory.

The burly left-hander made 45 in 63 balls, and dropped anchor while Aravinda de Silva and captain Arjuna Ranatunga continued the strokeplay.

For England, it was a miserable return to Faisalabad for their first match at the Iqbal Stadium since the infamous on-field confrontation between then-captain Mike Gatting and umpire Shakoor Rana during the 1987 test series against Pakistan.

Carling Quits As England's Rugby Captain

Will Carling, England's most successful Rugby skipper, announced Sunday that he would step down as captain after his country's final Five Nations' match against Ireland next Saturday.

Carling, who said he hoped to play international rugby next season, said he was quitting on his own terms. "There comes a time to depart and I go out when I believe I am playing as well as ever," he said. "England needs to appoint a captain for the 1999 World Cup and I would like to see how I play without the captaincy."

Carling, 30, took charge of the England team eight seasons ago. He led it 58 times for 43 victories, including Five Nations' grand slams in 1991, 1992 and 1995. He took England to the World Cup final in 1991.

Last year, however, England was thrashed in the World Cup semifinals by New Zealand, then lost the third place playoff to France.

Carling was re-appointed captain, but his personal life came under scrutiny after a much publicized friendship with the Princess of Wales followed by a separation from his wife, Julia. Jack Rowell, England's manager, called the announcement "a stunning piece of news to all of us."

Auckland Posts Super Victory

The Auckland Blues demolished their New Zealand rivals, the Canterbury Crusaders, 49-18 in a Super-12 game on Sunday. Auckland, boasting nine All Blacks, had too much pace, power and skill for Canterbury and scored eight tries against Canterbury's three.

Auckland led 24-13 at halftime with tries by Lee Stensness, Jonah Lomu, Charles Riechelm and a penalty try.

The team ran away with the game after the break when loose forward Andrew Blowers scored two tries and Waisake Sotutu and Errol Brain had on apiece.

In Brisbane, Australia, Waikato scored three tries in the last five minutes, but failed to overhaul Queensland. The home team held on to win 26-22, to record its first victory in the tournament, following a 57-17 thrashing by Otago last week.

Wingers Damian Smith and Ben Tune scored Queensland's opening tries. Lock John Eales kicked four penalties and two conversions from as many attempts. Waikato's Ian Foster could land only three kicks from seven attempts. New Zealand's late charge brought a bonus point under competition rules for a defeat of less than seven points.

SCOREBOARD

WORLD CUP SLALOM
Results of Sunday's slalom World Cup final in Lillehammer, Norway: 1. Sebastian Amiez, France, 1:44.87; 2. Thomas Sykora, Austria, 1:45.05; 3. Urs Kaelin, Switzerland, 1:45.09; 4. Karin Roten, Switzerland, 1:45.10; 5. Mariann Eide, Norway, 1:52.08; 6. Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden, 1:52.80; 7. Martina Ertl, Germany, 1:52.80; 8. Anita Wachter, Austria, 1:52.80; 9. Katja Seizinger, Germany, 1:52.80; 10. Michael von Grütigen, Switzerland, 1:52.80; 11. Thomas Sykora, Austria, 1:52.80; 12. Urs Kaelin, Switzerland, 1:52.80; 13. Karin Roten, Switzerland, 1:52.80; 14. Mariann Eide, Norway, 1:52.80; 15. Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden, 1:52.80; 16. Martina Ertl, Germany, 1:52.80; 17. Anita Wachter, Austria, 1:52.80; 18. Katja Seizinger, Germany, 1:52.80; 19. Michael von Grütigen, Switzerland, 1:52.80; 20. Thomas Sykora, Austria, 1:52.80; 21. Urs Kaelin, Switzerland, 1:52.80; 22. Karin Roten, Switzerland, 1:52.80; 23. Mariann Eide, Norway, 1:52.80; 24. Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden, 1:52.80; 25. 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